August 13th—August 19th, 1987, No. 33 75¢

THE Fisherman

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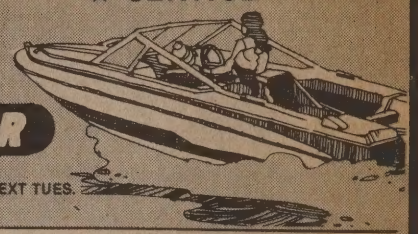

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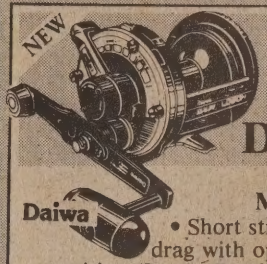

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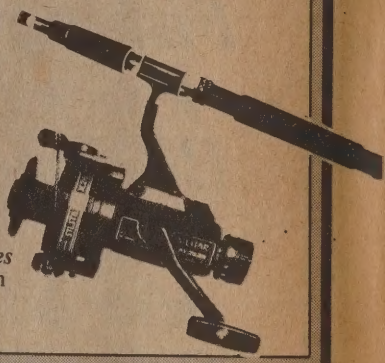

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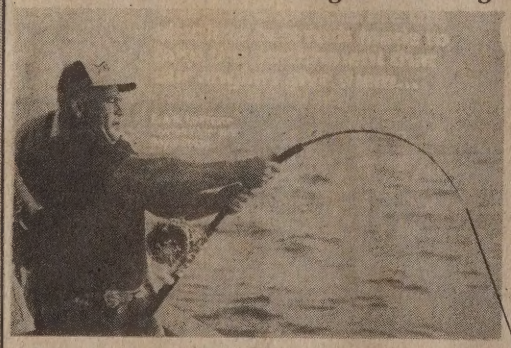

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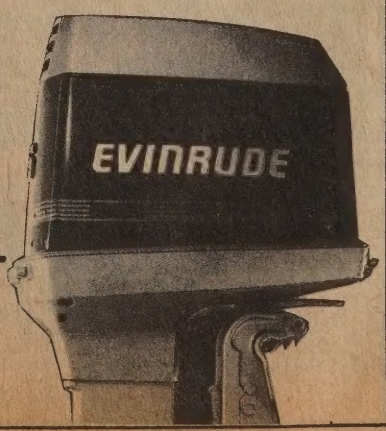

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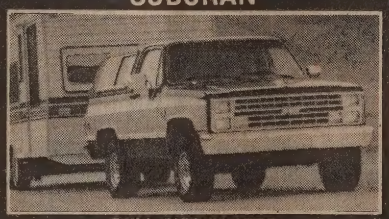

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THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

Volume 22, Number 33 August 13th, 1987

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Tom Hastings caught this fine sea bass on a pile of rubble known as Rockaway Reef. For an in-depth look at what this structure has to offer, see Capt. Pete Mikoleski's article on page 29 of this week's issue. Photo by Capt. Pete Mikoleski.

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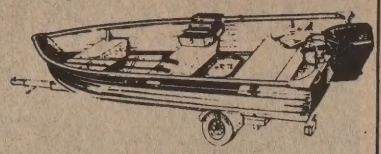

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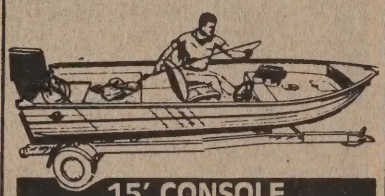

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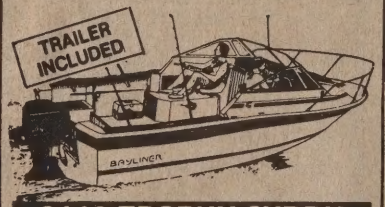

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BOATING SAFETY IN STONY BROOK

Flotilla 19-04 of the USCG Auxiliary will present a 10 week course in Boating Safety and Seamanship on Tuesdays, beginning September 15, at 8PM.

This course will be held at the Stony Brook Yacht Club in Stony Brook and is free, except for a fee for materials. For further information, please call 584-5449 or 467-6098.

FACT SHEET TELLS HOW TO FREEZE FISH

A good day's fishing—or an especially good buy at the local seafood store—may present you with a greater bounty of fresh fish than needed for the meal at hand. Freezing can preserve the taste, texture and nutrition of that bounty for future meals. However, to keep fresh fish at its peak, freezing must be done properly. Cornell Cooperative Extension provides these suggestions for freezing fish.

Choose only really fresh fish for freezing. Most forms of fish—pan-dressed, small whole fish, steaks for fillets—are easy to prepare for freezing.

When freezing fish, it is important to keep out oxygen and prevent moisture loss. Individual pieces may be tightly wrapped in plastic wrap to exclude all air. These individually wrapped pieces may then be stored in meal sized portions in plastic freezer bags. This allows individual pieces to be thawed separately and quickly in any desired quantity. Fish frozen this way should be bagged in quantities of no more than one pound each to allow for rapid freezing.

Smaller pieces of fish may be frozen in a freezer jar or in a waxed or plastic carton. If natural juices do not quite cover the fish, a small amount of water will need to be added to cover the surface. Be sure to allow 1/2 to 1¼ inches of space at the top of the container for expansion. Fish frozen this way will take longer to thaw.

Label packages for freezing with the date, kind and type of fish and weight, number of pieces or servings. place in the coldest part of the freezer for a quick freeze and then store them where the temperature does not fluctuate.

The quicker frozen fish is thawed, the better the quality. Smaller pieces may be thawed successfully in the refrigerator. Containers and large packages can be partially thawed under cold, running water until pieces can be separated, and then finish thawing in the refrigerator. Never thaw fish at room temperature or use warm water to thaw.

Cornell Cooperative Extension can provide a free fact sheet with additional information on fish. To obtain a copy send a stamped, self-addressed, legal sized envelope to: Freezing Fish, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, 246 Griffing Ave., Riverhead, NY 11901.

FISHING TOURNAMENT FOR MDA

On August 22, the East Bay Anglers will hold their first Annual Tuna and Bluefish Tournament to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association at the Guy Lombardo Marina in Freeport, NY.

The purpose of the fishing tournament is to raise funds for MDA and to encourage good sportsmanship and fair competition.

There is an entry fee of $150 per boat of which $90 will go towards prize money ($45 in each category of fish). Prizes will be awarded at the completion of the tuna and bluefish contests. Additional prizes will be given according to weight.

Registration for the tournament will take place at the Captains meeting, Friday night, August 21 at the Marina between 7 and 9:30PM. Free refreshments of soda and beer will be served.

For more information or an official entry form, call Michael Stone (212) 564-9040, George Roth, (516) 798-4356, Joe Lackner, (516) 735-0305, or Ronnie Bauer of the Hudson Point Fishing Station, (516) 867-9608.

NEW YORK SPORT FISHING FEDERATION TO BENEFIT FROM ARTHUR SMITH TOURNEY

$250,000 in cash and merchandise will be up for grabs when the 4th annual Arthur Smith Bluefish Tournament gets under way August 28 and 29 out of both Jones and Fire Island Inlets.

There's something for everyone in this year's tournament. Red Man Chewing Tobacco will donate $10,000. The winners names will be pulled out of a fish bowl: 3-$1,000 winners, 1-$2,000 award and a 1-$5,000 winners just for fishing in the tournament.

The angler who catches the largest bluefish in the tourney will be awarded a Galazy 2100 boat equipped with an OMC 1.8 litre Sea Drive, Cox Trailer and a Humminbird depth sounder. For the largest bluefish caught on boats leaving Jones Inlet, a Hydra-sports 2000 DC, 150 Johnson, Cox trailer and a Humminbird depth sounder will be awarded. Out of Fire Island Inlet, the largest bluefish caught will be worth a Glassmaster 196, 90 Evinrude, Cox trailer and a Humminbird depth sounder.

The Overall Champion Team, which will be determined by total weight for the two days (maximum 5 fish per day) will receive over $15,000 in merchandise. Included will be a 19

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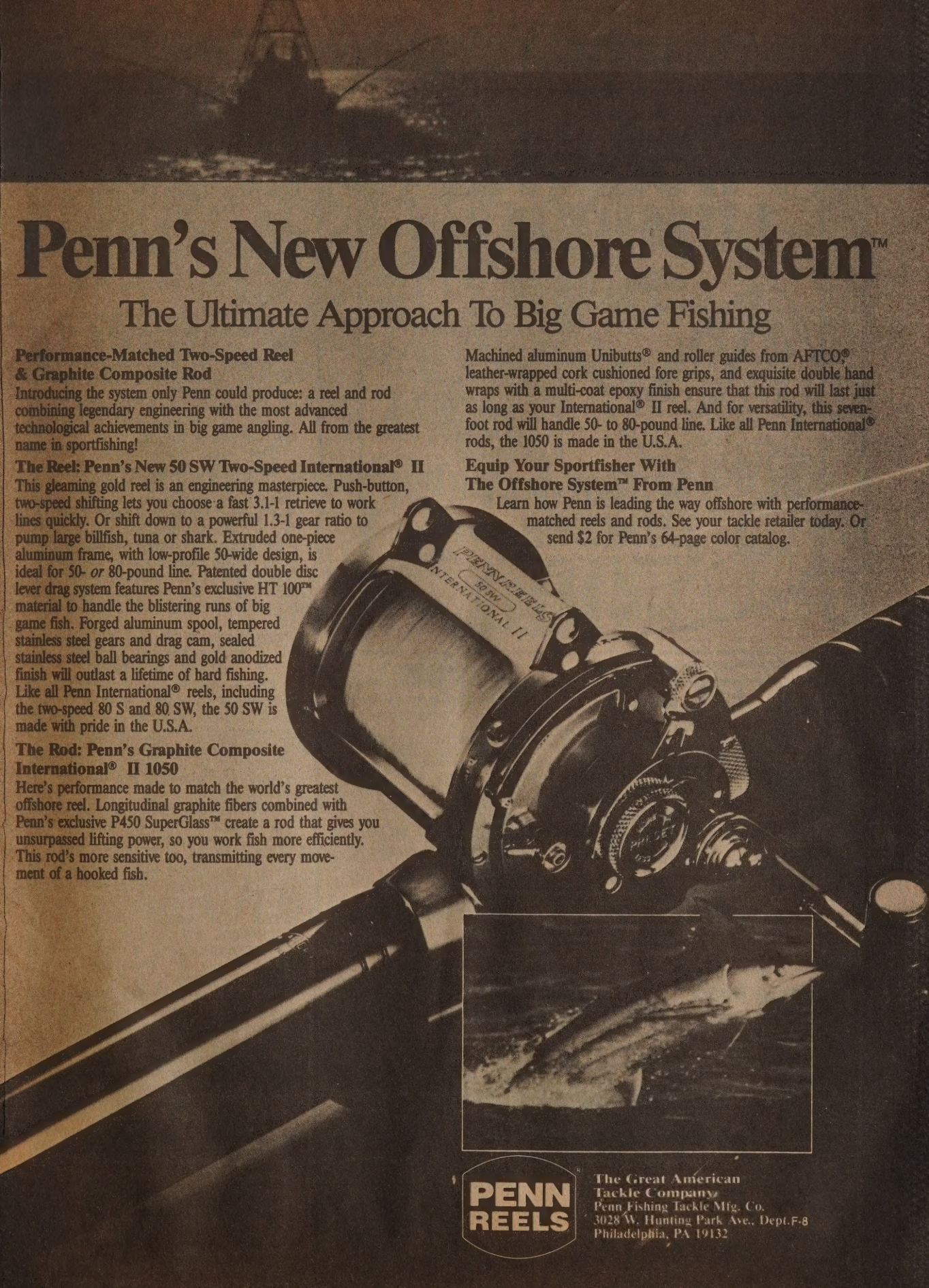

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There will also be daily prizes, 10 per day, which will total $37,000 in cash and prizes. Additional bonuses of $1,000 will be provided by 16 different boat manufacturers for the largest bluefish caught on that boat. If the grand prize winner is wearing Sperry Top Siders and uses Bagley's Silver Thread and has on board Olin Signal Products, an additional $1,000 will be awarded. A very special award of $100,000 will be awarded if the current all tackle world record is broken during the tournament competition.

A special feature of the awards day program will be the appearance of Joe STampley and his Double Shot Band.

To get a complete copy of the rules, an entry blank and all other details, call 516-897-1977 or write to PO Box 7343, Freeport, NY 11520-9998. There is a special discount of $25 for all entries before August 1.

The New York Sport Fishing Federation is happy to be associated with this tournament because of its conservation oriented format. This is not a giant kill tournament. Only the top 5 fish per day will be counted. Part of the proceeds will be turned over to the Federation to support its many activities concerning the conservation of the marine environment and the promotion of sport fishing.

PRODUCTION BEGINS ON SAFETY AND SURVIVAL AT SEA VIDEOTAPE SERIES

The North Pacific Fishing Vessel Owner's Association (NPFVOA) has entered show business. The Seattle-based association of Bering Sea crab and trawl fishermen will begin production of a series of cold water safety and survival videotapes July 15.

The videotape series represents the third phase of the NPFVOA's Vessel Safety Program, the most comprehensive attempt at reducing fishing vessel casualties ever undertaken in the U.S. Slated for completion by mid-October, 1987, the videotapes will address four subject areas: safety equipment and survival procedures; fire prevention and control; medical emergencies at sea; and fishing vessel stability.

Undertaken with the funding and support of the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Coast Guard, the Vessel Safety Program represents an industry-government collaboration aimed at reducing fishing vessel casualties. The program began with publication of the *Vessel Safety Manual*, a 300-page document that comprises the operational half of the Voluntary Safety Standards for U.S. commercial fishing vessels.

The program's second phase was the establishment of the Crew Training Program, a series of hands-on safety and survival courses for commercial fishermen and other

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Pick up applications at your local bait & tackle shops throughout Connecticut, Long Island and New Jersey, or call WICC (203) 332-1859. Register now and good fishing!

mariners. The videotapes, which will parallel the NPFVOA manual and training program, are intended to provide refresher training for those who have completed the other phases of the program, or to serve as stand-alone training aids for those who haven't.

For information about the videotapes or the other components of the Vessel Safety Program, write the NPFVOA Safety Office at Building C-3, Room 207, Fisherman's Terminal, Seattle, WA 98119; or call (206) 283-0861.

PAINT DEADLY TO FISH, EXPERTS SAY

Marine scientists warn that even minuscule amounts of a tin-based paint used to keep boat hulls free of barnacles and algae can kill and deform fish and may endanger seafood eaters.

Researchers testifying last week before two subcommittees of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee urged lawmakers to impose immediately tough restrictions on tributyltin, or TBT.

The Environmental Protection Agency has been studying the effects of the paint for the last 18 months, but testing is continuing and any federal restrictions will not be in place until next year.

The chemical can kill or deform snails, clams, mussels, oysters and salmon at levels well below other toxic substances.

INFORMATION ON ALL TYPES OF FRESHWATER FISHING!

Experienced fisherman Keith Rogers shares the secrets of successful angling in this new guide for novices of all ages. *Freshwater Fishing* covers all the basics, from knot tying and rigging up to hooking and landing fish. The book also explains how to: locate fish, choose the proper equipment and bait, develop good casting skills, select the most effective technique for fishing under various conditions, recognize different fish, catch a fish once it's hooked, and much more!

Highlighted with numerous photographs and illustrations, this easy to read resource provides fishermen with valuable tips and hours of enjoyment! $9.95 by Leisure Press.

JOHNSON LAW RESTRICTS TBT BOAT PAINTS

State Senator Owen H. Johnson (4th S.D., Babylon) announced that the Governor has signed into law his bill to ban the use of quick-release TBT marine paints and severely restrict the use of slow-release TBT paints. TBT is TriButylTin, a tin-containing compound that effectively inhibits the growth of fouling organisms, such as barnacles, on the bottoms of boats left in the water for extended periods of time. The new law is effective immediately and applies to the state's fresh and marine waters.

Under terms of the legislation, "quick release" TBT antifoulant bottom paints are defined and the sale is such paints is prohibited. Boat owners are prohibited from applying any "quick release" TBT paint to any vessel and are restricted from applying slower releasing TBT paints to any vessel smaller than 25 meters, with the exception of aluminum parts. Slow release TBT paints can be sold only in containers of one quart or less and manufacturers are required to label the containers with the warning that New York State law restricts the use of such paints to aluminum parts only. The Department of Environmental Conservation is responsible for developing and distributing a list of paints restricted under the act. Violators of the new law will be liable for a fine of up to $250.

Senator Johnson, who is Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on the Long Island Marine District and a member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, indicated that he developed the legislation to protect the state's $100 million shellfish industry and prevent damage to aquatic life in New York's freshwater lakes and rivers.

He explained that TBTs effectiveness depends on the compound

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North Coast

leaching out of the paint into the layer of water next to the boat. The leachate forms an effective barrier against the growth of fouling marine organisms. "Unfortunately," he said, "the larvae of shellfish are extremely sensitive to pollution in the marine environment and the use of TBT paints can kill non-target organisms, such as clam and oyster larvae." Senator Johnson stated that TBT is toxic in extremely small concentrations and that recent surveys have shown that TBT was accumulating in marinas and harbors at levels which exceeded laboratory toxicity estimates.

DAIWA JOINS U.S. MARINE CORPS TO PROVIDE NEEDY CHILDREN WITH MERRY CHRISTMAS

Daiwa Corporation has joined the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to provide fishing tackle presents to needy children this Christmas.

In this program retailers and wholesalers purchasing Daiwa tackle for the '87 holiday season will receive a designated amount of free goods that will be shipped to U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots depots across the country in the customer's name. By purchasing Daiwa tackle from participating dealers, anglers will also be supporting the Toys for Tots campaign.

The tackle will be shipped to USMCR Toys for Tots units in the communities selected by Daiwa retail/wholesale customers.

MAKO M.P.H.
Reprinted from Seaword

How fast does a mako shark travel? The fastest rate of travel shown by a tagged mako was 36 miles per day (1,321 miles in 37 days) between Veatch Canyon and a point approximately 175 miles east of the Flemish Cap region of the Grand Banks.

This fact was among the 1986 data collected in the Cooperative Shark Tagging program, a joint venture of the National Marine Fisheries Service and sport and commercial fishermen of the United States and several foreign countries.

Other interesting findings: one tagged sandbar shark was recaptured after 21.3 years at liberty, a new record for any species tagged in the program. The fish was tagged at Great Machipongo Inlet, Virginia, in June 1965 and was retaken by a commercial shark fisherman off Tarpon Springs, Florida in October 1986.

One blue shark tagged north of the Azores in late April of 1986 was recaptured three months later (1,000 miles) in the Mediterranean. This is the second tagged blue shark to show movement from the Atlantic into the Mediterranean.

The program also tags swordfish. Last year's returns show movements from off Virginia to Miami (in 11 months) and from 140 miles south of Newfoundland to 20 miles south of the Dry Tortugas (1,930 miles after 32 months).

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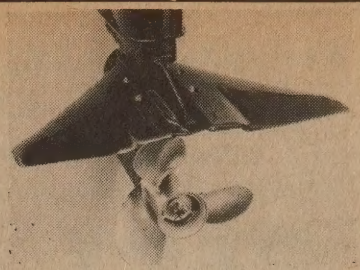

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AQUASPORT
BILLY Y. E. QUOGUE NY. 7/1/87
22' CENTER CONSOLE 170hp MERC I/O
"I JUST WANTED TO CALL AND TELL YOU; THANKS ALOT. THE DOEL-FIN WORKS GREAT, MY BOAT COMES ON PLANE AT 2500 RPM NOW, IT WAS 3200 BEFORE. THE BOW NEVER COMES UP, IT'S THE BEST INVESTMENT I EVER MADE."

BAYLINER
JOE A. HARRISON NY. 6/29/87
21'6' CUDDY CABIN 130hp. PENTA 275 O/D
"THE DOEL-FIN GOT THE BOAT ON PLANE IN HALF THE TIME AND AT A MUCH LOWER RPM. I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT, WITH 4 PEOPLE IN THE BOAT IT STAYED ON PLANE ALL THE WAY DOWN TO 1700 RPM. IT CUT FUEL CONSUMPTION BY OVER 25% AND ON TOP OF IT ALL I PICKED UP ABOUT 5 MPH AT 4500 RPM, ITS GREAT!"

CHECKMATE
CHUCK S. HICKSVILLE NY. 6/9/87
18' 4 SEATER 175hp. MERC.
"THE DOEL-FIN IMPROVED THE PERFORMANCE OF MY BOAT BEYOND ALL MY EXPECTATIONS! IF I NAIL THE THROTTLE AT LOW SPEED THE BOAT HAULS ASS WITHOUT THE BOW COMING UP. I CAN PULL OUT A SLOLOM SKIER.USING A 24 DEGREE PROP, THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD DO IT WITHOUT THE DOEL-FIN."

GRADY WHITE
RANDY N. FORDS NJ. 7/12/87
21' CENTER CONSOLE 200hp JOHNSON
"MY BOW STAYS DOWN, I CAN SEE WHERE I'M GOING VERY EASILY NOW. THE BOAT PLANES FASTER AND STAYS ON PLANE DOWN TO ABOUT 2800 RPM, THAT IS ABOUT 1000 RPM LESS THAN BEFORE. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SAVING LOTS OF MONEY ON GAS. STABILITY WAS IMPROVED AND THE STEERING WAS BETTER AT LOW RPM'S. IT'S GREAT! THE DOEL-FIN IS DEFINITELY WORTH THE MONEY."

MAKO
TOM S. ROSLYN NY. 6/30/87
23' WALKAROUND 175hp EVENRUDE
"I'M VERY SATISFIED WITH THE DOEL-FIN. THE BOAT RIDES SMOOTHER AND IS MUCH BETTER IN HIGH SPEED TURNS. THE BOAT IS MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE TROLLING OFF SHORE AND DOES'NT POUND IN THE CHOP."

BRUCE H. NEWARK NJ 7/6/87
23' CENTER CONSOLE 235hp EVENRUDE
"THE BOAT PLANES OUT NICE AT 3000 R.P.M. IT WAS 4000 R.P.M BEFORE THE DOEL-FIN. I'D SAY IT WAS A BETTER INVESTMENT THAN TRIM TABS. FUEL ECONOMY IS MUCH BETTER. I'M VERY PLEASED."

PROLINE
PAUL Z. N BABYLON NY. 6/24/87
21' CENTER CONSOLE 115 YAMAHA
"THE RIDE IS TREMENDOUSLY BETTER WITH THE DOEL-FIN THE BOAT GOES THROUGH CHOP BEAUTIFULLY."

RENKEN
AL N. FARMINGDALE NY. 6/29/87
19' BOW RIDER 120hp. MERC. I/O
"THE DOEL-FIN IS THE BEST INVESTMENT I EVER MADE. AT 1200 RPM WITH 2 PEOPLE IN THE BACK OF THE BOAT THE STERN WAS UP WITH NO WAKE. I DIDN'T HAVE TO STAND UP THE WHOLE DAY TO SEE OVER THE BOW. STEERING WAS EASIER. THE BOAT STAYED ON PLANE AT 2500 RPM. I ONLY WISH I HAD THIS ON THE BOAT 3 YEARS AGO."

RENKEN
RICH L. E. NORTHPORT NY. 7/12/87
20' CUDDY CABIN 175hp MERC I/O
"THE BOAT CAME ON PLANE AT ABOUT 2500 RPM, NORMALLY ITS 34-3600 RPM. I WAS ABLE TO LEAVE THE RAMP AREA NOTICABLY FASTER WITH LESS OF A WAKE. THE DOEL-FIN IS WORTH THE MONEY, THE PRICE IS VERY FAIR."

SEA OX
SAL & TONY P. HOWARD BCH NY. 7/12/87
23' CUDDY CABIN DUAL 115hp YAM W/GIL BRKTS
"THE DOEL-FIN IS WORTH THE MONEY. THE BOAT STAYS ON PLANE DOWN TO 2800 RPM, IT WAS 34-3500 RPM BEFORE. THE BOW STAYED DOWN WITH PEOPLE IN THE STERN AND IT FEELS VERY SOLID IN CHOP & CROSSING A WAKE. I CAN MOVE DOWN THE CANAL AT A HIGHER RPM AND LEAVE LESS WAKE. I'M RECOMMENDING THEM TO OTHER BOAT OWNERS."

SEA RAY
TOM H. DEAL NJ. 6/25/87
21' SEARAY 160hp. MERC I/O
"THE DOEL-FIN IMPROVED GAS ECONOMY AND INCREASED STABILITY IN MY BOAT. IT DID EVERYTHING YOU CLAIMED IT WOULD, I RECOMMEND IT VERY HIGHLY."

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HOWARD L. MORICHES NY. 6/25/87
205 CUDDY CABIN O.M.C DRIVE
"I'M ABLE TO STAY ON PLANE AT 3500 RPM BEFORE THE DOEL-FIN WAS INSTALLED I HAD TO RUN AT 4200 RPM. IT CERTAINLY SEEMS TO WORK VERY WELL."

STARCRAFT
BOB J. NORWALK CT. 6/23/87
16' ALUMINUM 85hp. EVENRUDE
"I CAN SEE OVER THE BOW NOW, I'M VERY HAPPY WITH THE DOEL-FIN. I HAVE MOVED THE SEAT BACK WHERE I'M MORE COMFORTABLE, IT HAS EXCEEDED MY EXPECTATIONS."

STEIGER CRAFT
LARRY L. MANHASSET NY. 6/29/87
25' CENTER CONSOLE 200 MERC
"I'M VERY HAPPY WITH THE DOEL-FIN. IT KEEPS THE BOW DOWN, CAUSING THE V BOW TO ENTER THE SWELL FIRST AND ELIMINATE POUNDING."

THOMPSON
WALTER N. BRIDGEWATER NJ. 7/6/87
20' FISHERMAN 165hp MERC I/O
"THE DOEL-FIN WORKS GREAT. THE BOAT NOW HAS A VERY COMFORTABLE RIDE, THERE IS NO POUNDING WHEN GOING OVER WAKES. IT WAS WORTH EVERY PENNY!"

TIARA
JOHN B. GREENWICH CT. 7/2/87
26' PURSUIT 260hp. O.M.C DRIVE
"I AM VERY PLEASED; THE DOEL-FIN KEEPS THE BOW DOWN. I DON'T HAVE TO TOUCH THE TRIM, IT IS THE BEST INVESTMENT YOU CAN MAKE IN A BOAT."

TROJAN
LARRY B. BROODKLYN NY. 7/13/87
25' SEA RAIDER 188hp MERC I/O
"THE BOAT PLANES MUCH FASTER, I'M VERY PLEASED WITH THE DOEL-FIN. I FEEL THEY ARE WORTH THE MONEY. I DON'T USE TRIM TABS ANYMORE."

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GENE P. BRENTWOOD NY. 6/23/87
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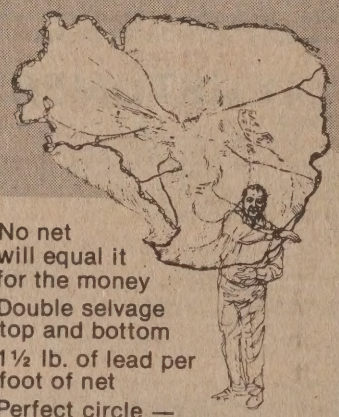

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Product Review

"FISH SCOUT"

by Jim White & John Jollie

The Fish Scout was designed and developed especially for bass and all freshwater game fish. It's based on the pH phenomena research done by Dr. Loren Hill and the instrument is licensed by Lakes Illustrated.

The Fish Scout has no battery and nothing to wear out or replace. It's small enough to be taken anywhere and will easily fit inside a tackle box, but becausethe instrument is so sensitive, it should be wrapped in a soft cloth for protection while in storage.

To understand how the Fish Scout works, it's necessary to know what pH is and how to use that information to catch fish.

The water composition in a body of fresh water (ponds, lake, reservoirs, streams and rivers) can vary significantly even within a relatively short distance. A measure of this water composition is called pH. In simple terms the measurement is the indication of whether the water is acidic or alkaline in nature.

The scientific study of the life and phenomena of lakes, ponds and streams is known as Limnology. There is a great body of evidence reported by well known biologists and zoologists, plus two U.S. Symposiums and an EPA document that indicate some obvious factors. Freshwater fish develop a "behavior avoidance" posture; i.e., they will shy away from two types of water.

For example, a heavy rainfall, particularly an acid rain in only part of a lake can signficantly alter water composition. The acid/alkaline balance can also be affected by such other factors as pollutants entering the water, decomposing fish, by the closeness to the shore and nitrogen and other gases generated by growing plants, some of which are not even visible.

This instrument is intended to measure the pH composition at water surface and just below. Keep in mind that that's all it was intended to do.

Recent research shows that the pH can change significantly at various depths in warmer weather. This is not so in cool weather when the pH reading tends to be the same from top to botomm. The Fish Scout will provide you with a method of measuring pH without the use (or expense) of a more sophisticated instrument with a cable.

Studies show that acidic water is so damaging to the fish population, if they can survive, their ability to reproduce is drastically impaired and in some cases, ceases altogether. The other type of water condition fish try to avoid is relatively high alkaline water. It is toxic (poisonous) to their existence. Therefore, when reading the scale, the area reflected on the Fish Scout scale indicated as "ideal" is neither acidic nor relatively high in alkaline. In this "ideal" type water (slightly alkaline) fish tend to thrive and therefore can be found more readily.

To measure pH with a Fish Scout, first determine several areas in a lake in close proximity that to you represent likely areas where game fish will be found. Then follow the seven easy steps:

1. With the material provided (a household cleaning wipe), rub both probes *briskly* to remove invisible oxidation, dirt, etc.
2. Using a clean container (plastic cup or pail, etc.), obtain a sample of water.
3. Immerse the probe fully.
4. Time for 10 seconds. Notice where the needle settles. Wipe the probe dry.
5. If the needle settles in the acid or alkaline zones (yellow or green), the water is relatively uncomfortable or dangerous to the fish.
6. If the needle settles in the Ideal zone the water is slightly aklaline (7.2 to 7.6) and fish will tend to cluster in this area. (Neutral water is 7.0.)
7. This is very important: be sure you wipe the probe clean after each use and before storing so no unwanted sediment adheres to the probe.

After following the above steps make sure you obtain readings from at least 3 or 4 different areas and try to determine where in the area the needle points closest to Ideal.

Now, your obvious question must be: does it work? Well, we really can't say that it doesn't. Someone once said if you believe it does, then it does. If you take the time to keep accurate records and correlate the information with weather, water temperature and a number of other factors, then it certainly can't hurt any.

We felt Fishermen readers who are interested in this type of technology should be aware of this little device. It retails for around $20, far less than the more sophisticated one which goes well over $100.

Many tournament fishermen use the Fish Scout to gain this valuable extra edge when even small differences can mean a lot. If you fish the same lakes repeatedly, you will be able to find certain areas, balanced for ideal pH that will yield fish consistently. This helps eliminate a lot of fishless water.

* * *

Fish Scout is marketed by: Advanced Marketing Inc., P.O. Box 21036, Cleveland, OH 44121.

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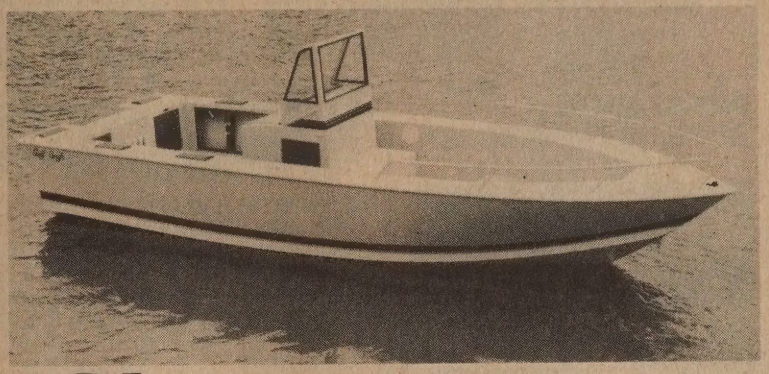

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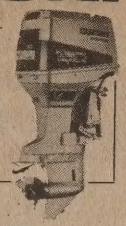

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Captain's Table

STUFFED WEAKFISH

by Sal Agliano

If you're the type of person like myself who loves whole baked fish but hates picking through bones, you might want to give this week's recipe a shot. Preliminary preparations may seem tedious and time-consuming but, believe me, the end result justifies the extra effort.

You can choose any firm round fish (blackfish, bluefish, sea bass, etc.), but my preference leans towards weakfish. Select a fish of about 3 or 4 pounds—5 pounds tops! Scale the fish and rinse it off thoroughly. Remove the dorsal fin by angling your knife slightly inward while making a deep cut along each side of the fin from head to tail. Grasp the back end of the fin with a cloth and gently pull the fin free.

Turn the fish belly side up and make a straight deep cut beginning just under the mouth and extending to just beyond the anal opening. Clean out the gut cavity and cut out the gills. Pierce the gut cavity membrane with a sharp knife and peel the membrane out. Slide your finger along the fish's backbone until you locate the first rib, the one closest to the head. Gently insert the tip of your knife under and behind the rib bone at the point where it is connected to the backbone. Carefully slide the knife up along the rib bone and away from the backbone until the rib bone is completely free of the flesh. Snip the rib bone off at the base of the backbone. Repeat this procedure on both sides of the fish from head to toe (excuse me, tail!) until all the rib bones have been removed. Slide the knife along both sides of the backbone, then gently pull the backbone out in one piece. Feel around for any stray splinters of bone and pluck them out with tweezers. Rinse out the gut cavity, rub in some salt, and set the fish aside in the refrigerator while you prepare a stuffing. Choose one of the stuffings from below.

Crab and Bacon Stuffing

1 lb. crab meat
4 strips of bacon
1/2 cup finely minced onion
2 tbsp finely minced celery
2 eggs, beaten
2 tbsp dry bread crumbs
salt and pepper to taste

In a small skillet, fry the bacon slices until crisp. Drain the bacon on paper toweling and crumble it into a bowl. Saute the onion and celery briefly in the bacon fat. Drain off the excess bacon fat and add the sauteed onion and celery to the crumbled bacon. Add the crab meat, eggs, bread crumbs, salt and pepper; mix thoroughly. Cover the stuffing with plastic wrap and refrigerate until the mixture is firm.

Buckwheat-Apple Stuffing

2 cups roasted buckwheat groats
1 cup water
1 tsp salt
2 tbsp butter
1/2 cup finely minced onion
1/2 cup peeled and coarsely chopped apple
1 tbsp oil
2 hard boiled eggs, chopped coarsely
pepper to taste

In a medium sized saucepan, heat the water and salt to boiling. Reduce heat to a simmer and sprinkle in the buckwheat. Simmer gently while stirring until the water has been absorbed. Remove from heat and stir in the butter.

In a small skillet, heat up the oil and saute briefly the onion and apple. Transfer sauteed onion and apple to a mixing bowl and stir in the cooked buckwheat. Add the chopped egg and pepper; mix thoroughly. Cover the stuffing with plastic wrap and refrigerate until mixture is firm.

Spinach-Cheese Stuffing

1 lb. fresh (or 10 oz. frozen) chopped spinach
1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
2 tbsp butter
1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese
2 eggs, beaten
salt and pepper to taste

Cook the spinach until tender; cool, drain and squeeze out the excess water. Combine the spinach, butter and cheddar cheese in a mixing bowl. Add the bread crumbs, eggs, salt and pepper; mix thoroughly. Cover the stuffing with plastic wrap and refrigerate until mixture is firm.

Shrimp and Flounder Mousse Stuffing

1/2 lb. cleaned baby shrimp
1/2 lb. flounder or fluke fillets
2 egg whites
2 cups heavy cream
pinch of nutmeg
salt and white pepper to taste

In a food processor using the steel cutting blade, reduce the flounder fillet to a paste. Slowly incorporate the egg whites, then the heavy cream and blend until the mixture is light and fluffy. Add the nutmeg, salt and white pepper and blend briefly. Transfer the mixture to a mixing bowl and gently fold in the baby shrimp. Press a sheet of plastic wrap tightly over the stuffing and refrigerate until firm.

When the stuffing has been sufficiently chilled, remove the fish and stuffing mixture from the refrigerator. Rinse out the fish and spread the stuffing mixture into the gut cavity. Sew up securely the fish's belly flaps with cotton thread used for roasts. Place the stuffed fish on a rack in a roasting pan. Fill the bottom of the pan with water and bake the fish in a preheated oven set at 375 degrees for about 40 minutes. Test for doneness by piercing a fork into the widest part of the fish. The flesh should be milky white and flaky.

THINKING RECORD FISH?

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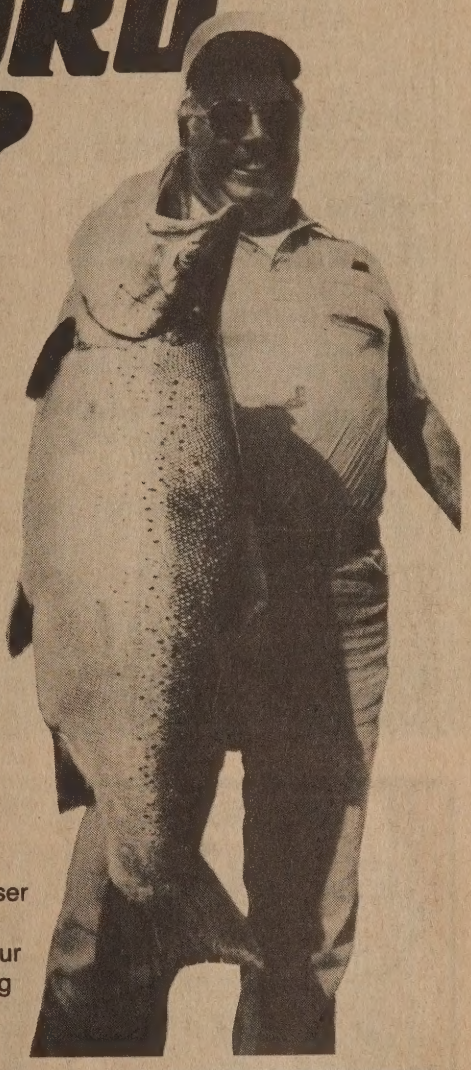

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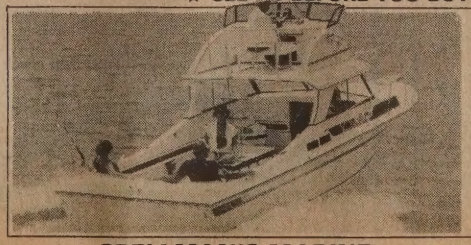

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The Tackle Doctor

by Ken Freel

Dear Doc,

In many articles that I read in The Fisherman, the author makes mention of the "night tide." I obviously know what "night" and "tide" mean, but I am not sure what they mean when they are used in this context. Does this refer to any nighttime non-slack water condition, or is it referring to the incoming or outgoing tide? By the way, what type of tide is best for New Jersey surf fishermen? Thank you. *John Mole.*

Dear John,

This is a very good question because the tides are one of the most important influences on how fish act and where they will be located. Night tide simply refers to a tide, either incoming or outgoing, which occurs during the night. The reason experienced surf fishermen are interested in night tides is that fish like stripers, weakfish and blues are more active and less cautious under cover of darkness. These particular fish will also come within casting range more frequently during the night and early morning or dusk hours.

There are no hard and fast rules as to when the best tide to fish a particular area will occur. However, most seasoned surf fishermen will fish during high tide periods rather than low tide. High tide waters cover more area and afford fish, both bait and game fish, the means to swim around in these areas, while at low tide these same areas may have only a few inches of water cover or none at all. Thus, many fishermen know when the spring tides occur each month. Spring tide refers to the two times each month when the sun and moon are in line with the earth. This correlates with the new and full moon. at new and full moon the sun, earth and moon are all lined up. This situation makes the high tides even higher and depending on wind conditions or other conditions like a storm may cause flooding and other damage.

Another advantage of high tide periods is that the surf fisherman will often find fish right at the first dropoff in the surf. Therefore, short casts can be very productive during high water periods. Also, in the case of striper fishermen, high tides and rough water are best.

Ebb tides are good to fish around bays and inlets because the receding tides force the baitfish into the deeper waters. Predatory fish instinctively know this and will prowl the deeper edges of the bay or inlets in search of an easy meal. A note to remember regarding tides in the United States is that tides occur about 50 minutes later each day of the month as the moon rises about 50 minutes later each day. So, if high tide occurred at 7AM on a Tuesday, it would occur at around 7:50 AM on Wednesday. This cycle repeats itself day after day and year after year.

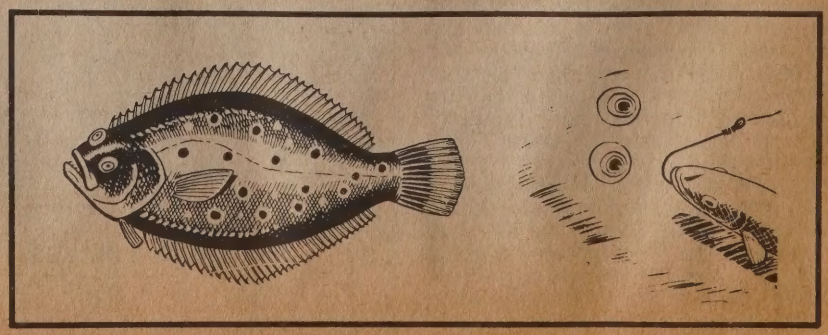
Keeping all of the above information in mind, its's easy to realize why the High Tide Tables in each of the issues of The Fisherman are so vital to a lot of our readers. You'll notice, too, that the new and full moon dates are listed for each month as this correlates to the spring tide.

* * *

Dear Doc,

A friend of mine uses a high-low rig for fluke and I am surprised that he consistently catches fish. The thing that most suprises me is that the hook, which is a foot above the bottom hook seems to catch just as many fluke as the bottom hook. Don't fluke wait right on the bottom for their meals or are some suspended a foot or two above the sandy bottom?

Also, on this high-low rig the sinker is attached right at the bottom of the rig, unlike a conventional fluke rig where the sinker is found up further at the three-way swivel. A final interesting thing is that his rig has no metal swivels since it is attached directly to the running line.



My friend says that he keeps the line relatively slack and this allows the top hook on the rig to be placed close to the bottom. What do you think about this setup? *Keith Martin.*

* * *

Dear Keith,

It does not really surprise me too much that a high-low rig catches fluke, especially since the top hook is only one foot above the bottom one. Since the sinker is attached by a loop at the very end of this type of rig the rig will hold bottom very well. You mentioned that your friend holds the line slack to allow the top hook of the rig to get closer to the bottom and I believe that is what would happen if you gave a little slack. The top hook probably is not resting directly on the bottom but darting 4 to 12 inches above it dependiing on the wave action, speed of the drift, and the amount of slack that your friend allows. If this is the case, and apparently it is since he is catching fluke, then the bait would be in view of any hungry flattie.

You are right about fluke being located on the bottom. It's doubtful that any would be suspended a foot above the bottom since this would leave them exposed to attack from passing marauders like bluefish and small sharks. Fluke like to lie right on the bottom and most will cover themselves with sand so that only their eyes will protrude. Fluke wait in ambush until a small baitfish or squid passes too close and then they pounce, just like a cat waiting for a mouse. It should be noted that a piece of bait dangling to a mere foot or so from the bottom will get the attention of any unsuspecting flounder. If conditions are right, then the fluke will not hesitate to dart up out of the sand a foot or so and grab a piece of bait.

The nice aspect of the high-low rig is it doesn't take much time or effort to tie on if you're in a pinch and short of the conventional fluke rig. To tie the end loop, just double over the last 6 to 8 inches of line and hold between your thumb and forefinger. Next make a small loop near the part of the double line which you are holding between your fingers. Take the bigger loop and guide it through the smaller loop three times and pull tight. The end loop is formed. To form loops on the line to allow for hooks just repeat the process by forming a loop with the line and then a smaller loop which you pull the bigger loop through three times.

Although the high-low rig setups like the one your friend uses are not the preferred way to go fishing for fluke, there is little doubt that the rig will work. Wreck and rock fishing sinker bouncers use these rigs all the time for blackfish, sea bass and ling as the absence of metal swivels, etc., makes these rigs less prone to getting hung up in the rocks or wrecks. If your friend is catching fluke using the old high-low rig, then let him be. Good fishing.

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Dock Lines

by Eric Burnley

Once again, we have news about additives for low lead and no-lead fuel. The Valvtect Petroleum Products Corporation has received recommendations of their product for use in all Crusader marine engines. Shamrock boats supply a bottle of Valvtect with each new boat they sell. A spokesman for Valvtect told me they expect endorsement from other major marine manufacturers in the near fusture. In addition, many marinas now add Valvtect to the low lead gas they pump. The feeling seems to be old engines need the protection and new engines are helped by it. We will keep you informed as other products receive endorsements from engine manufacturers. There is also some movement towards keeping lead in marine fuel, but I don't hold much hope that this will happen.

* * *

Dear Eric,

If you are drift fishing and someone moves into the area and anchors, who has the right of way? Do I have to move around the anchored boat or does he have to move out of my way since I was there first? This has happened to me when I was flounder fishing a very narrow channel on the eastern shore of Virginia.

Bob Justice.

Dear Bob,

As I understand the rules of the road, the boat that is drifting would be required to move to avoid a collision with an anchored boat. While this is technically correct, it does not forgive the complete lack of common courtesy and good sense displayed by anyone who would anchor in an area where all the boats are drift fishing. The same holds true for those who drift through an anchored fleet.

My first reaction in these situations is to come alongside the offending boater and, in a very pleasnat manner, explain to him the error of his ways. Sometimes this solves the problem and sometimes these negotiations break down, resulting in unkind words being exchanged. It may be better to move around the anchored boat and hold your temper.

* * *

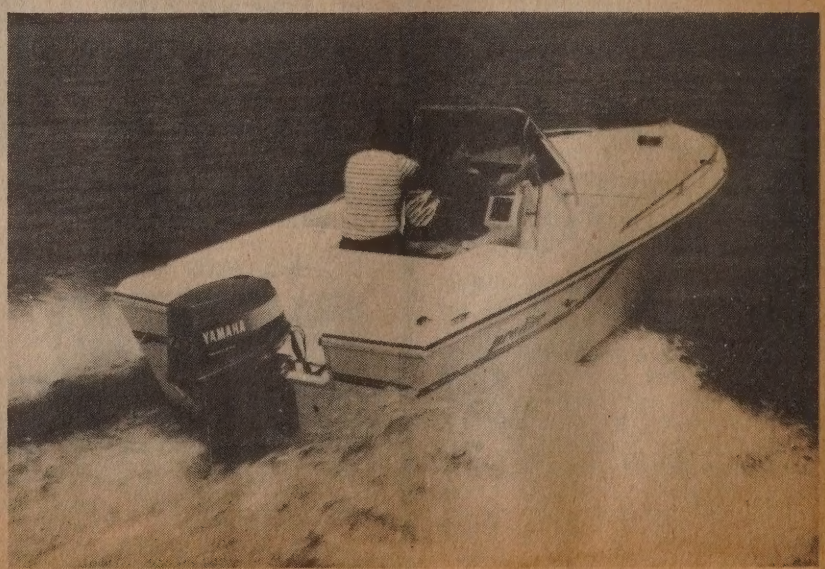
Dear Eric,

I have seen too many people who operate their boat while drinking beer or other alcoholic beverages. It seems to me this is at least as dangerous as driving a car while drinking. Is there anything we can do to stop such an unsafe habit? *Barbara Mandio.*

Dear Barbara,

Driving while intoxicated is dangerous on the road and on the water. The big problem with boating is the attitude that this is only recreation and I should be able to have a few drinks while I am having fun. No one likes to think about responsible safety procedures when they are out for a good time.

Unfortunately, this attitude is costing lives as well as property damage. This will translate into higher insurance premiums for everyone who owns a boat regardless



of their drinking habits.

Some states have enacted laws that treat drunk boat operators the same as drunk drivers on the road. This gives the marine police some power to arrest an incapacitated boat operator, but the fines are generally light and there is no driver's license to suspend.

Individual boat owners should begin to look at their own performance on the water. Do you pop a few beers every time you go out ? Do you encourage a party attitude among the guests on your boat? Do you carry more alcoholic beverages than soft drinks on your fishing trips? If so, you may be part of the problem.

If your fishing buddies can't be happy without beer on the boat, be sure they don't take more than they can handle. As the captain you are responsible for everyone on the boat and if someone insists on taking more than a six pack of beer on a fishing trip you could have a problem on your hands before the day is over.

I have found the best plan is to save the booze until you get back to the dock. A cold gin and tonic or a beer with some Jimmy Buffet playing in the background while you watch the sun set over the bay can be the perfect ending to a day on the water.

* * *

Dear Eric,

I have been shopping for a new boat to use inshore for weakfish, blues, etc., and perhaps a trip or two outside for sharks and tuna. I have pretty much decided on a 24 foot center console, but am undecided on the power plant. The boat can be ordered with either an outboard or inboard/outboard engine. Which do you think is best? *Gary Simpson.*

Dear Gary,

Th truth is neither engine type is best. Both have certain features that make them desirable for certain applications.

The outboards and I/Os on the market today are so good that reliability is no longer a consideration. With proper care and maintenance either power plant should give you trouble-free operation for many years.

It has been my experience that center console boats are best suited to outboard power.The outboard motor takes up less space in the boat than an I/O where the engine box would be very close to the console.

The I/O installation does work well on a runabout or cuddy cabin boat where the steering station is well forward. I have seen fighting chairs mounted on the engine boxes off offshore boats powered by inboard/outboard motors.

If you can run some boats powered by I/Os and outboards, you may get a feel for which suits you best. Naturally, these boats should be as much like the one you plan to buy as possible. Your dealer should be happy to arrange a test run.

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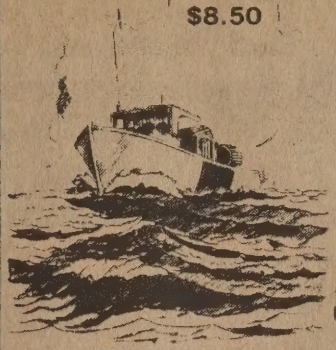

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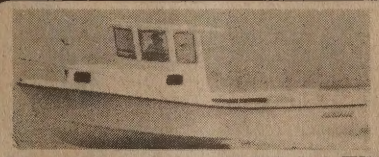

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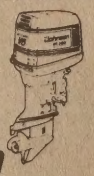

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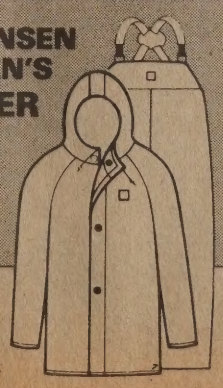

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SEND-A-KID FISHING UPDATE

by Fred Golofaro

The 1987 segment of The Fisherman's Send-A-Kid Fishing Program is rolling along in high gear thanks to the many donations received from readers, advertisers and fishing clubs and organizations. In fact, we're right on track in our goal for sending one thousand youngsters fishing this summer!

Each of the last four years has seen the donations and the number of youngsters involved steadily increase. A special thanks from myself and all of the kids for making the program such a huge success.

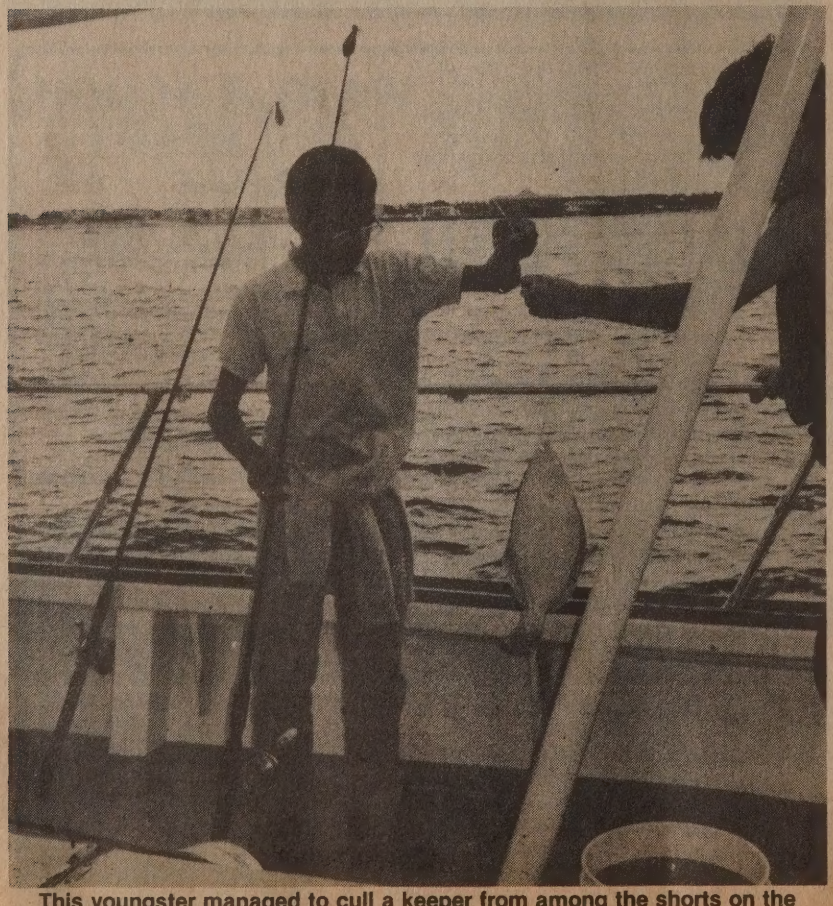
This year began with a trip for 65 youngsters from the New York City Division of Substance Abuse. They sailed aboard the Captree charter boat Sea Ranger on Memorial Day and were treated to a mixed bag of ling, blackfish and sea bass on the Fire Island Ocean Reef.

The first large outing took place back on July 2nd and involved five Captree charter boats. Two hundred forty youngsters were scheduled to make the trip, but a steady rain all morning cut the turnout to 190.

Fluke fishing, as everyone knows by now, has been plagued by shorts. This didn't dampen the spirits of the kids though, as they enjoyed the steady action provided by the undersize flatties and received a lesson in fisheries conservation as well.

A couple of the boats opted to try for flounder in the Sore Thumb Pocket, but an easterly wind kept the fishing down to a slow pick. However, enough fish were caught to send the kids home happy, though a touch on the damp side.

The weather was ideal for our next trip on July 16th when five of Captree's finest sailed with a total of 225 youngsters.



This youngster managed to cull a keeper from among the shorts on the July 16th trip.

The plague of short fluke continued but once again, it had little effect on the enthusiasm of these kids, many of whom landed their first fish ever, during the day. When a keeper was landed, it was treated to quite an ovation by those aboard.

At the time of this writing, 480 youngsters have taken part in this year's program and there are three more outings scheduled before the end of this month. There will be a small group (20 to 30) trip out of Sheepshead Bay and two more large group outings from Captree. The next trip will take place just about the time you'll be reading this—August 13th—with 250 kids slated to participate.

It's nice to note these trips have all come off without incident which only serves to underscore the value of the therapy provided by "a day on the water." The excellent job done by counselors, chaperones and the mates should not go unnoticed here either. Their attentiveness has certainly helped keep these trips on an even keel.

In addition to the Sea Ranger, other Captree charter boats participating in this year's program include the Cap'n Andy, Fishtale, Taryn Ann, Dixie II, Lois Ann, Sea Bird, Blue Albatross, Prime Time, Capt. Eddie B and Shearwater.

Youngsters for these 1977 trips have been provided by the following groups and agencies: Big Brothers/Sisters of Nassau and Suffolk, Community Organizational Services, Suffolk YMCA, Youth Environmental Services, Melville House, Madonna Heights, Roosevelt Youth Center, Nassau Children's House, Your-Ours and Mine, Hicksville Youth Council and the New York City Department of Substance Abuse Services.

There is still time to help this year's program and any monies not used during the 1987 season will be used to kick-off the 1988 program. A listing of all those who contributed during the 1987 calendar year will appear in The Fisherman early next year.

I wish it were possible to personally thank each one of you who has contributed to "Send-A-Kid Fishing," but it would simply be impossible. Instead, thanks to all of you and may you each taste some of the satisfaction you so richly deserve.

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NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL STYMIES BILLFISH PLAN

by Dick Russell

For over ten years now, the federal Fishery Management Councils that make regulations for U.S. waters have been struggling to implement a plan to preserve Atlantic billfish stocks. Their draft plan in 1982 supported a ban on commercial sale of white marlin, blue marlin and sailfish. Since no market yet existed for these species, which have always been the domain of recreational fishermen, no opposition was anticipated. But the plan needs unanimous consent of the five Atlantic-based regional councils and, when the Inter-Council Billfish Steering Commiteee met recently for two days in Hyannis, Mass., that unanimity was still lacking.

The lone hold-out is the New England Council, whose 17 voting members are predominantly representatives of the commercial fishing industry. They have long opposed any no-sale provision, as much for philosophical reasons as anything else.

With Cape Cod fish markets and restaurants beginning to serve marlin to consumers, and a commercial smokehouse opening in the neighboring Ocean State, Massachusetts sought to head off any more such efforts when its Marine Fisheries Advisory Council voted unanimously in June to outlaw sale of these billfish in the state.

When the regional councils met in Hyannis, New England's clung to its old position, calling for a one-fish per boat per trip limit. The patience of council members from the South Atlantic and Gulf states, where billfish are a major recreational species year-round, was clearly wearing thin.

As meeting chairman Greg McIntosh of the South Atlantic Council put it: "The New England attitude is one of ego. They adopted a position some years ago and developed a rationale around it. Now they have institutionalized it. They are very stubborn, independent, and practical, they think. But they don't seem to realize that the situation has changed!"

The big concern is that, unless the no-sale becomes law soon all along the coast, "there will be a hue and cry that the marlin is now a commercial fishery," according to Walter Fondren of the Gulf Council.

It used to be the Japanese and Korean longliners who, in their pursuit of yellowfin tuna, hooked (and sold abroad) the majority of marlin. Because of pressure from sport fishermen, these two nations agreed to shift their focus to the deeper swimming bluefin and bigeye tuna in the early 80s and largely moved out of the Gulf. But then the domestic longliners moved into the gap. Over the past few years, the U.S. yellowfin tuna fishery has, says McIntosh, "exploded far beyond the expectations of anyone." That has meant a much higher incidental catch of marlin getting swept up in hauls and many fishermen looking to market them.

A woman representing Merritt Seafoods of Florida, which has the largest longline fleet on the East Coast, said that the company urges its boats to release all marlin caught. "Most commercial fishermen don't want to sell marlin," she told the council members, "but they will as long as they have the opportunity." She added that six years ago, the price of marlin dockside was 60 cents a pound; today, a fishermen can sometimes gets as much as $2. "The longer you drag your feet, the higher it goes," she warned.

In the Caribbean, commercial landings of blue marlin have escalated over the last couple of years. The situation here, according to council member Joe Campos, finds many longline captains who have not previously sold marlin now seeing so much landed on other boats that they're saying: "Joe, I won't be able to contain my people for long, unless you get a regulation."

The South Atlantic's McIntosh is convinced that, as happened with redfish in the Gulf states, billfish may soon be being promoted to the American consumer as a new delicacy. "Swordfish anywhere inside the U.S. 200-mile zone are gone," he says. "Fished out. With yellowfin tuna, I give it 2 to 4 years before they go down the tubes. What will happen to the longliners' huge capital investment? They will have to start targeting the large ocean pelagics. Blue marlin, white marlin and sailfish will be the only thing left." Lester Smith, a former director of the National Wildlife Federation and the only New England Council member to have voted for the no-sale, expressed a similar fear, that commercials may soon be forced to key on the marlin "and they'll go by the boards."

New England longliner interests at the Hyannis meeting carefully avoided that subject, but insisted that a one-fish limit was reasonable and okay with them, also avoiding the obvious conclusion that this insistence was standing in the way of **any** plan taking effect. Gale Johnson, a New England Council member whose husband is a swordfish longliner, commented: "If a marlin is alive, they release it. If it's dead, they sell it. We don't like to waste things in New England. I'm concerned about fairness." To which Spider Andresen, publisher of Salt Water Sportsman Magazine and a prime mover behidn getting the no-sale through in Massachusetts, responded from the audience: "The only fairness in my mind is fairness to the resource, not these polarizing interests."

The most heated exchange came when a Maine longliner kept pressing the councils to accept the one-fish argument, maintaining that otherwise "it's a matter of fish being caught and wasted." Ed Joseph, South Atlantic spokesman, replied: "Well, that's the attitude of, if you genuinely believed a doe was a buck when you shot and kiled it, then it's okay to bring it in. Traditionally in game management we're willing to accept a certain amount of waste to make sure it's not a whole lot worse."

The longliner shot back that Joseph's remarks had nothing in common with commercial fishing vessels. Joseph then said: "Deer and duck hunting used to be major commercial activities, and the decision was made not to permit this any more. My understanding is that active rod and reel pursuit of marlin dates back at least to the turn of the century. And there haven't been longlines for anywhere near that long!"

Indeed, if the one-fish limit became the plan, Campos foresaw a scenario where longliners might catch 15 or 20 marlin and then keep only the biggest one, dumping the rest dead.

New England Council staff Doug Marshall and Rich Ruais argued that they should be allowed a separate management regime for their area. "We simply said no-sale is not acceptable in **our** area, but we have no trouble with you doing it in yours,"

they explained. What they didn't discuss was the potential enforcement problems this would create.

Until now, the New England Council has based its rationale on two main points. First, that the opinion of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) legal counsel to New England a year ago was that he didn't believe the no-sale provision would be defensible in a court fight. (NOAA must approve any plans submitted by the councils.) However, at this latest meeting, lawyer Joel MacDonald changed his view.

Commenting that "any potential sale of fish in New England alone would create a loophole," MacDonald said that new information indicated that the no-sale idea would not be inequitable and that the socio-economic benefits (meaning, the amount of money generated by the sport fishing industry) outweigh the costs. Given this shift in legal opinion, Dave Borden of the New England Council said it was probably time to re-examine their opposition.

New England's other argument in the past has been that it simply didn't catch many billfish. Clearly, this situation has changed radically in recent times. Several people at the meeting quoted a figure of 1,000 white marlin having been purchased last summer by a single Massachusetts fish market, Poole's of Martha's Vineyard. Last year in the entire Gulf of Mexico, only 629 billfish of any kind were boated and 315 of those released. If the 1,000 figure was accurate, said Joseph, "that's more marlin than a lot of the coastal states put together!"

Later, in a telephone conversation with this writer, Everett Poole denied buying anywhere near 1,000 white marlin, a figure originally put forth by a Nantucket commercial fisherman after a talk with one of Poole's employees. Poole estimated he may have bought "maybe 100 to 150" whites, but admitted he purchased "all I could get." He said he wasn't really sure of the numbers, "I don't keep track of these things. I work 14 to 18 hours a day, who counts?" Poole refused to reveal the dockside prices he offered fishermen, "but I never pay less than $1 a pound and I've never refused to buy a marlin yet."

Still later, when questioned by the New England Council, Poole revised his estimate down further. Only 60 to 70 white marlin were handled by his company in 1986, he said. National Marine Fisheries Service statistics show an even further discrepancy. They list total New England marlin landings at 7,609 pounds for 1986—although just the marlin admittedly handled by Poole and known to have been sold in Rhode Island add up to far higher than that.

All these questions only further point up the need for action now on the inter-council billfish plan. If a no-sale is implemented, federal officials could go on longline vessels as observers and curtail all longlining once a particular quota of marlin is reached. Otherwise, as the Caribbean's Campos said: "With swordfish, you only had longlines at night; but when fishermen start going round-the-clock like the Japanese, 60 to 70 boats each with lines stretching for 50 miles, all catching marlin along with the tunas, I wonder if we'll have many marlin left at all before long?"

It isn't just the longliners, of course, especially in New England offshore waters. It's the harpooners and the rod and reel "sport" fishermen, who often stick a marlin at the end of a tuna trip to pay for gas money. Knowing they could make $500 for five fish, according to Dave Rockland of Sport Fishing Institute, some harpooners are even keying on the marlin exclusively.

But as far as Dave Borden of the New England Council is concerned, far too many legal technicalities still remain up in the air. Borden says that over 90 percent of the white marlin take occurs outside of the U.S. zone by foreign longliners. "So, what about prohibiting imports? The Federal Government has taken no position on this. If you can't, then we are only affecting the domestic fishermen, which to us is unacceptable. And a no-sale regulation would be completely unenforceable because everybody will just claim they caught 'em outside the zone."

So, with New England still dissenting, the first Atlantic-wide gathering of the councils in a year-and-a-half accomplished nothing new. As one member noted in exasperation, "Have we paid $20,000 to $30,000 of the taxpayers money just to sit around here and look at each other?" At the close of the meeting, Walter Fondren of the Gulf Council summarized: "Today we've basically agreed that we don't agree." And the meeting adjourned in stalemate.

Since then, the Caribbean Council which had also been waiting to get a provision allowing its traditional small handline fishery to remain alive (the one made famous by Hemingway in "Old Man and The Sea"), voted to support the no-sale at a meeting in early July.

That leaves only New England on the other side of the fence, and Lester Smith intends to force the issue to a head when the regional council meets in August. Smith says he has a whole file in which the eight advisers to the New England group have voiced support for the no-sale. The new addition of Barry Gibson, editor of Salt Water Sportsman, as a council voting member may help to shift the balance somewhat. But the only way to realistically expect to turn the tide is through pressure—from the sport fishing community for whom the marlin have always been a traditional resource. Without that pressure, soon it may no longer be possible to say that—and the marlin, like the swordfish, may not even exist any more in offshore American waters.

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WICC BLUEFISH SPECTACULAR

by Dick Alley

This year marks the fifth anniversary of the WICC Greatest Bluefish Contest on Earth. It's scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, August 29-30, 1987 and a new prize structure coupled with this, the fifth year of experience in running the contest, ensures one and all that it will be the biggest and best ever.

The contest idea was born in 1983, and that year it was the Million Dollar Bluefish Contest. A fish was tagged, and the angler lucky enough to catch it would win a million dollars.

Very few people DON'T get excited about a million dollars, and Long Island Sound anglers came out in big numbers, all vying for a chance at that big and expensive fish. Well, there were no winners in 1983, and the following season, the prize structure changed, and a Stamford angler, Oscar Navaretta, caught himself a 19 lb. 5 oz. bluefish that netted him a great big $10,000. Others won a $1,000 prize and everybody had a good time, vowing to return the following year.

1985 drew even more anglers into competition, and in addition to the top prize of $10,000, there were 15 $1,000 prizes. There were also six tagged bluefish that would have brought the anglers who caught them anything from a new car, to electronics, to fishing trips, and a new boat and trailer. The number of weigh stations and entry spots was increased. The contest winner was Joseph Picarillo, of Brooklyn, New York and his son, Robert, came up with one of the lesser prizes, too.

Last year, the contest started with basically the same prize structure of a first prize of $10,000, plus 15 additional $1,000 prizes. Then on the opening day of the contest, WICC officials found themselves with a 20 percent increase in the number of contestants, and added an additional five $1,000 prizes, bringing the total to 21 fish to be caught. By now, it was pretty obvious that anglers weren't competing for tagged fish, but for the cold cash that could come along for the lucky anglers catching the big ones. The 1986 contest finished with Dominick Pascale, of Harrison, New York, winning the first prize of $10,000. He split the money with this brother, and put his share into a bank account, so he and his wife Kim could ensure the education of their infant daughter. While no tagged fish were caught during the contest, Richard Belenchi caught a tagged bluefish off of Fairfield a week after the contest ended. Close—no cigar—but it could be a sign that some of those tagged fish may be taken in this year's event. We know they're out there and that they remain in area waters and that's something.

It's 1987, and I expect the previous year's prize winners will be back to compete again. Last year's total of 4,995 contestants is certain to go well past the 5,000 mark. While the entry fee of $20 remains the same, the prize structure has been altered again, and in my mind made more attractive.

The heaviest blue will again be worth $10,000. Second place fish this year will bring $5,000 to the angler who catches it. Third place will win $3,000 and the next seven heaviest bluefish will each be worth $1,000.

Again this year, there will be six tagged bluefish. Prizes for the six fish are as follows: an 18 foot Wellcraft boat, Mercury Outboard and EZ Loader trailer; a 1988 Mercury Tracer; marine electronics valued at $2,700 (VHF radio, Loran, radar and color recorder); Apelco DXL 6000 Loran C receiver; $1,000 fishing gear shopping spree; and Dream Fishing Trip for two to the Florida Keys.

What does it take to be a winner? Winning fish last year ranged in size from 15.22 to 17.81 pounds. In 1985, the smallest fish winning a prize weighed 16.67 pounds and the largest 19.42 pounds. In 1984, Oscar Navaretta's big fish weighed in at 19.5 pounds. Judging by those years, a fish of 16 pounds and better could certainly qualify. The 20 pound mark has yet to be broken during the contest, although bluefish over 20 pounds have been recorded at other times of the year.

The 1987 bluefish season started early and started with a huge invasion of choppers the length and breadth of the waters of Long Island Sound. Gradually throughout the season, bait schools became consolidated, and the schools of big choppers naturally followed the bait. Norwalk had its

flurries of fishing excitement in July and Stratford and Bridgeport waters saw some explosive action in June and July, too. I'm writing this story in mid-July and as of right now, the most consistent good bluefishing has taken place in waters west of the Norwalk Islands. Waters off Greenwich and Westchester have enjoyed frolicking schools of big blues for several weeks in a row. On the Long Island side, western waters were also favored into July. All of this information really tells us nothing. Best fishing locations could change many times prior to and during this year's contest. However, last year showed the most winners weighed in in Norwalk. The year before, most of the big ones came from waters west of the Norwalk Islands. Stamford waters always produced well, as did waters off Mamaroneck, Greenwich, and Rye. One of the last fish to take a prize a couple of years back was caught right in Westport's harbor a couple of hours prior to the contest ending.

There are more places to apply than ever before. WICC has made applications available at over 100 tackle shops and outlets stretching into New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island. Weigh stations extend from Old Saybrook, to Westchester and across the Sound to points along the Long Island shore.

Applications can be obtained through the mail prior to midnight, August 16th. On-the-spot registration can be done at any of the following:

River's End B&T, 141 Boston Post Rd., Old Saybrook, CT.
Massey's B&T, 328 Shore Drive, Branford, CT.
Cerino's Marine, 164 Rogers Ave., Milford, CT.
Stratford B&T, 1076½ Stratford Ave., Stratford, CT
Schooner or Later, 50 Housatonic Ave., Stratford, CT.
Captains Cove Marina, 1 Bostwick Ave., Bridgeport, CT.
Fisherman's World, Liberty Square, E. Norwalk, CT.
Rudy's Tackle Barn, 242 South Water St., Greenwich, CT.
Jack's B&T, City Island Ave., Bronx, NY
Frank Tiborsky Marine, 110-02 15th Ave., College Pt., NY
Duffy's B&T, 100 Shore Rd., Glen Cove, NY
Four Winds Tackle, Huntington Station, NY
Stony Brook Marine, Stony Brook, NY
Caraftis Fishing Station, Port Jeff, NY
Warren's Tackle Center, Aquebogue, NY.

Some winners from previous contests may repeat again this year, or the blackboard at Captains Cove Marina, traditional headquarters for the contest, may have an entirely new list of names. A few people will have their pockets jingling, but everyone ends up a winner in this contest w which gets better and better every single year.

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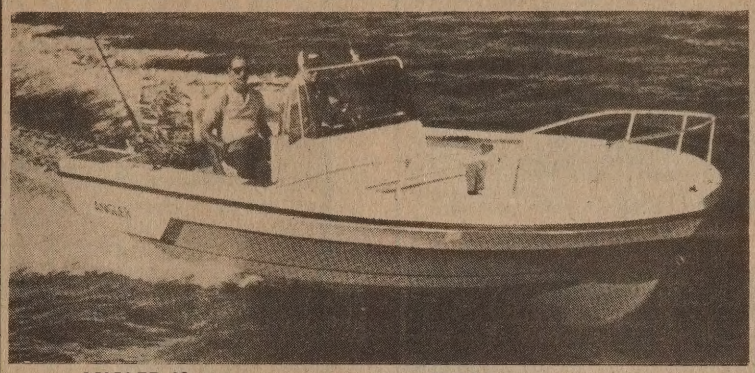

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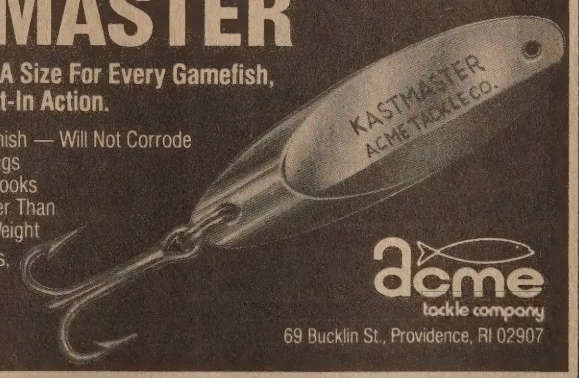

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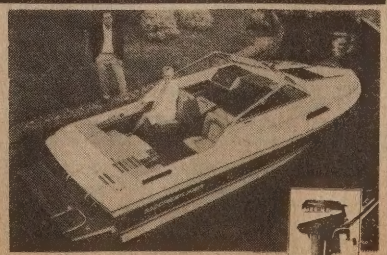

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AARON, CYRIL, AND TOM

by Matt Ahern

My mail load is quite heavy and I receive a variety of questions not only about fish and fishing, but also on related subjects. Not surprisingly, youngsters want to know about my long ago fishing companions. Were they good fishermen? What were they like? And so on and so forth.

So, to answer such questions, I'll devote this article to doing just that.

I was born in Brooklyn some 70 odd years ago (1914). Many of those years were spent living in a tenement house in what is now called Bushwick. It was in this neighborhood where I first became truly interested in fishing and from whence came all those now long-gone old-timers and master fishermen from whom I learned so much (not only about fish and fishing, but how one should conduct one's self in life). They are the ones I write about so often in these articles.

I had many boyhood chums, one being crotchety Artie Leidecker with whom I still fish today (67 years this past July) and who is closer than a brother. But there were others, some whose names I no longer recall, and some whom I've written about many times over the years. And of these, I want to tell you about my boyhood chum Aaron Feldman.

But before I do I've got to tell you something about the Brooklyn school system of my day. If it appears I'm coming to you from left field, not to fret. We'll get there.

Although we had some pretty sharp kids in our neighborhood, our particular school would never have produced a Nobel or Pulitzer-type student. We had too much stacked against us for that. Those days of my boyhood still saw much European migrations. Our streets (and therefore our schools) were a babble of foreign tongues—mostly Italian, German, Polish, and Lithuanian. Those of us who spoke only English quickly gained a working knowledge of these tongues (especially the cuss words which came with little effort). In a year's time, however, most of these immigrant kids spoke fluent English with no trace of accent, using their native tongue only at home.

Our school also produced its share of bullies—fellows who took advantage of those not able to protect themselves. And one of these fellows was "Big Gus," who was a year or two older than most and who used his extra strength and height to lord it over those smaller and weaker.

One morning on our way to assembly hall, I saw Big Gus slyly push a little girl part way down a flight of steps. I called him on it. Foolish me. The guy was at least a head taller and much heavier than I was. I was sorry I had opened my mouth and I'm not ashamed to admit that. One word let to another until finally Gus challenged me to meet him in the school yard after supper.

After school that afternoon, I looked up my buddy Aaron and told him what had happened.

"Yeah," Aaron said. "I know that guy. One time Pa caught him stealing cigarettes from the store." (Mr. Feldman owned the neighborhood candy store.) "You gonna meet him?"

"I got to."

"He's gonna knock your head off your shoulders. You know that?!"

"Yeah. I know that."

"And you know he's probably

gonna have some of his buddies along to get in the fun. Right?''

''I know that, too.''

''And you're still going?''

''Dammit, Aaron, I said I'd be there!''

''Okay. That's what I want to know. I'm going with you. Maybe between the two of us we'll make them earn the lumps we get.''

And that's the kind of friend and buddy Aaron Feldman was.

Big Gus never showed, though Aaron and I hung around the school yard for over an hour. The next morning at school I stopped him in the hallway and asked why. He said he didn't feel well, or he forgot, or something like that. Just like every bully in the world.

Aaron and I chummed around for a good, long time, fishing every chance we got. (Boy—did we do a number on those Sheepshead Bay snappers and lafayettes!) We had long dreams of one day owning a party boat together. But that dream ended during World War II when Aaron was slain on Guadalcanal, August, 1942.

Now, we'll get to fishing—but a word of warning: we aren't finished with friendship yet.

During the early thirties, I was a mate on the Rose R II out of Canarsie. Fishing was pretty good those days, though we didn't knock 'em dead every time we went out (contrary to what you may have been told). Most of us who learned the fishing ropes learned them from the regulars who frequented party boats on a regular basis. It seemed there was little these fellows didn't know about the fishing game.

One of these regulars who unselfishly shared his knowledge with me was a black man named Cyril. He was some fisherman, let me tell you. Codfishing was his love and I believe he knew more about these fish than any mortal man had a right to. Every regular aboard the Rose R liked Cyril—it was impossible not to. It was: ''Hey! Here comes Cyril! He'll show you how to catch 'em.'' Or perhaps it was: ''Hi, Cyril—gonna knock 'em dead today?'' Cyril would grin and say something like: ''Don't worry guys; I'll leave some for you.''

Now. Cyril's best friend was a white man named Tom. They were inseparable. You never saw one without the other close by. I'd been told their friendship dated back at least 40 years, and that it was fishing which brought them together.

As I got the story, both Cyril and Tom were childless widowers and had been so for years. They had first become acquainted when working together as van men for a piano moving company. From there, a deep and abiding friendship blossomed, nurtured by an intense love for fishing. They fished and worked together for years until the tragic day Tom was seriously injured on the job—so seriously that he could never work again.

When it became apparent Tom would have to struggle just for a meager existence, Cyril took over. He cheerfully gave up his own flat and moved in with Tom. He would allow nothing to happen to his old friend, if he could help it. Cyril paid the rent, bought the food, did the cooking, bought medicine which Tom desperately needed, paid the doctor bills—all these things he did. He nursed Tom far enough into good health so that they could again go fishing. It had taken several years. That's the story as I got it.

Then one day this great friendship came to a tragic end.

It occurred on a December day in 1934. We were codfishing on the offshore Seabright grounds and Tom was beside me at the stern rail. The cod, all pretty good sized, were coming up with regularity. As I recall, few cod were under 10 pounds and many reached the 20 pound mark. I was 20 years old at the time and these fish were giving me a hard time, therefore I wasn't surprised when Tom, who was then in his middle sixties, lay his rod aside and stopped fishing.

''Can't take it, eh, Tom?'' I joked.

''Boy, Marty, I feel rotten. I'm weak and I'm dizzy. Maybe I'll go down below for awhile.''

Cyril, who seemed always supersensitive to his friend's complaints, took him gently by the arm and led him to the forward cabin. Minutes passed and I continued to fish, taking needed time out to gaff a fish here and there. Then I heard a commotion near the pilot house. I reeled in quickly, lay the rod aside, and went forward.

There stood a very much upset Cyril. ''I think Tom's having a heart attack, skipper. I think he's dying! Please...can't we go in?''

''You bet, Cyril. Lines up, fellers! Marty, get that anchor in! Hurry! Cut if you have to!''

During those days party boats didn't have ship-to-shore phones or other electronic devices. Once you were out there, you were on your own. But we hooked up that old Fairbanks-Morse diesel as far as it would go. Black smoke belched from the funnel. And we were fortunate, for the seas were calm enough so that we could keep up the pace.

When we arrived off Barren Island we slowed and asked several pier fishermen if they would phone ahead and have an ambulance meet us at the dock. This they did, for when we arrived much medical help was available. Tom was taken away. No one heard a word for two days. Then Cyril showed up just as we returned from an offshore trip. He stepped aboard, tears streaming down his face. ''Tom died last night, fellers.'' He stepped back on shore and we never saw Cyril again.

This was the friendship some fishermen had for each other.

I hope I've answered many readers' questions...good, solid friendship—there's nothing like it.

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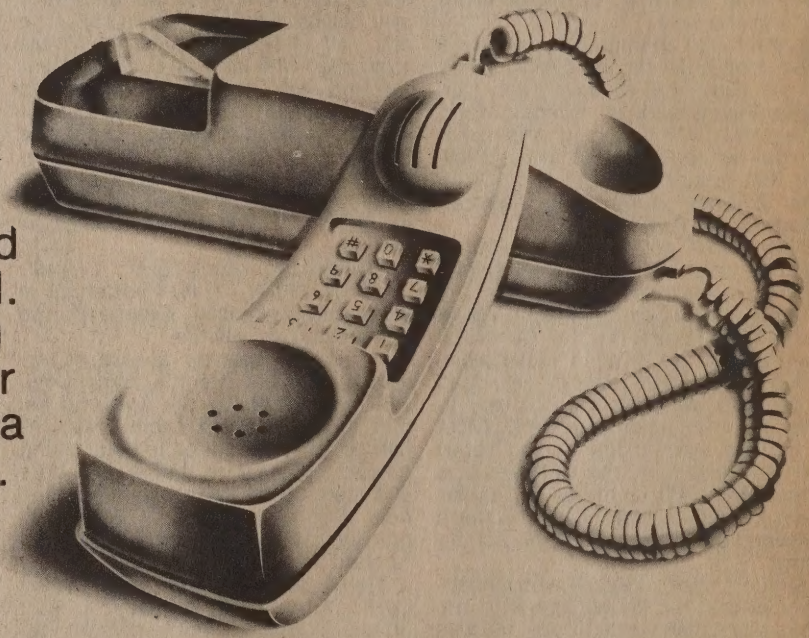

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ROCKAWAY BOUNTY

by Capt. Pete Mikoleski

If I could give you one good piece of advice that would instantly make you a better fisherman, it would be that structure fishing is the name of the game. Think about it for a moment. What do the successful giant tuna chunker, shark expert or sinker bouncing sharpie all have in common? Without question the common denominator that spells success for these three diverse anglers is structure! The giant tuna enthusiast anchors up over a deep water canyon or dropoff that is known to herd baitfish in a given area. The knowledgeable shark fisherman positions his vessel so that he will drift over some bottom contour lines that makos like to follow in their never ending search for food. For the aforementioned scenarios, high tech Loran and chart recorders definitely make the difference. Granted, these electronic navigational tools are needed to find an isolated piece of bottom structure many miles from shore. But if you'd like to rack up some impressive scores with fluke, sea bass and bluefish all summer long, wind 'em up and head for the artificial reef off Rockaway (Loran coordinates 26930/43750).

Unlike most other small, unobtrusive pieces of hot bottom, the reef is big and easy to find. It lies in about 35 feet of water approximately midway

(Continued on next page.)

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between Rockaway and Debs (East Rockaway) Inlets. Finding the reef should be no problem either because the southwest corner of the reef is defined by a white-orange buoy "SW" and it's exact position is clearly indicated on small craft chart #12350. Rockaway Reef is a large rectangular piece of bottom 1/2 mile wide a a mile long. It is comprised of big broken patches of rough bottom interspaced with small pieces of relatively clean bottom which makes drifting for big fluke and sea bass an easy proposition. If you have a paper recorder or video sounder on board you'll find plenty of jagged sections of bottom mixed in with a few select pieces of high profile structure. If you are fortunate enough to have a Loran gracing your console and it isn't just used for decoration like some that I know of, it just might pay off to log the coordinates of these high profile structures for future reference. This would be a good place to hunt for some husky blackfish later on in the fall. But once fluke start making their presence known along the beaches by virtue of their appearance in the commercial draggers' nets, it's time to start prospecting the reef.

Lacking sophisticated electronics is no excuse to keep you from partaking of the excellent angling possibilities on this artificial reef. Rough bottom will also clearly show up as multiple echoes on a flasher. If you are looking for fluke you're going to want to find the smoother patches of bottom that are utilized as high density traffic lanes when they move from place to place in search of an easy meal. Sea bass, on the other hand, will most likely be found hovering over some flatter portions of rubble. The key to successfully fishing the reef for fluke is to find some hospitable patches of bottom that will allow you to drift without losing too much terminal tackle. Once you find some productive terrain, short drifts will be the order of the day. Drop a buoy to mark the start of your drift, or keep running back on the same numbers.

No need to worry about terminal tackle either. If you'd be happy with a mixed bag of fluke and an occasional sea bass, feel free to use your standard fluke rig. Ours consists of a 2/0 or 3/0 beak or Sproat hook snelled to a 3 foot section of 30 or 40 pound test leader material. About 8 to 10 inches above an overhand loop for your sinker, tie another loop and use it to attach the long leadered hook. As an added precaution we tie a simple overhand knot in our main line between the sinker and the hook. If you get hung up on some sticky bottom (and you will), the cutting action of the overhand knot will pop your line. You'll lose the sinker, but at least you'll be spared the loss of a hook, especially if it's in the mouth of a doormat fluke or a sea bass with shoulders. Because of the large bite of a fluke hook you'll probably lose some of the smaller sea bass that inhabit the reef. But that's okay in my book;

it's a sin to waste all that delicate white meat by filleting a small sea bass. On ther other hand, if you like to bake your sea bass, you might be better off switching to the standard sea bass rig: a pair of smaller, tandem tied Sproat hooks to outsmart those medium sized sea bass.

You'll probably be most comfortable using bank sinkers that weigh anywhere between 3 and 6 ounces, depending on the strength of the current and the thickness of your line. We find that a medium sized conventional reel filled with 15 to 20 pound test abrasion resistant monofilament is perfect for the task at hand. Any light to medium weight boat rod would complement the outfit nicely.

Squid strips with fresh sand eels are the most common bait for fluke on the reef. However, long strips of fluke belly have been known to entice some of the larger specimens with regularity. Strips of fresh sea robin belly also makes a good doormat bait under certain conditions. Remember the golden rule: big baits = big fish! Whenever you enlist the aid of a long strip bait to entice a big flattie give him plenty of time to eat before you set the hook. "Big fluke cometh from long dropbacks!" Also, don't forget the fluke net. Some impressive doormats inhabit the flat contours of these grounds. Keep the fluke in the water. If you lift his head out of the water he'll probably panic and spit the hook. ALWAYS net them head first! Fluke do not have any reverse gear! Make sure your net is big enough. You should see the size of the fluke net my brother tom (a doormat specialist) acquired for the "Regina M." It would make any commercial halibut fisherman proud.

Nailing a bluefish while drifting for fluke or sea bass is not beyond the realm of possibility either, especially during August and September. Usually, though, the result of the close encounter is a bite-off and a lost fish. The razor sharp dentures of a bluefish will make quick work of anybody's mono leader material. If you really want to concentrate on catching bluefish, your best bet is to anchor up and chum for them. Look for one of those high profile pieces of structure that we talked about earlier and drop the anchor up current from it. The reason you want to spread a chum slick around these high spots is because bluefish are always lurking in the vicinity waiting to pick off one of the numerous bergalls that inhabit these structures. You can fish chunks of bunker or mackerel back in the slick or you can make good use of some of those bergalls by livelining them. A few worms on the bottom is all you'll need to stock up with enough bergalls for bait. Obviously a livelined bunker will turn the trick also!

The important fact here is that you must chum and you have to be patient. The blues will show up sooner or later. When they do, most of them will be some pretty hefty fish, so some stout conventional gear will be needed. You'll also have to enlist the aid of some coffee colored, wired leadered bluefish hooks if you expect to bring your share of fish to gaff. You can fish them 2 or 3 feet off the bottom with a three-way swivel and a piece of mono leader between one eye of the swivel and the wire leader. Or you can go with a fish finder rig right on the bottom. A little experimentation will determine which rig will be more successful that day. If you intend to sink your hook in the jaws of these hefty choppers with regularity you'll have to let them run with the bait. Keep your reel in free spool and wait for the pick-up which usually isn't that aggressive. Wait a second or so until the line starts to peel off your reel; then a quick count to three, slam your reel into gear and set the hook with vengeance. Bluefish are especially fond of prowling this area during the summer doldrums when vast schools of bunker are rather few and far between.

When the quality of your fluke fishing starts to slide during the summer doldrums, a visit to the Rockaway Reef is a welcome change of pace. The resourceful angler could enjoy plenty of action with a mixed bag of cocky sea bass, braggin' sized fluke or chopper bluefish just a short, four-mile run from either Rockaway or Debs Inlet.

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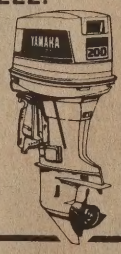

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A POINT ABOUT FLUKE

by Capt. John DeMaio

Anyone who has read my efforts over the years knows that I never really cared much for fluke fishing. Drifting along in the hot sun, slow lifting the rod for that clever devil that merely "lays" on the hook, is a bore. Perhaps my opinion was motivated by comparison, putting weaks and bass up against fluke is no contest. Yet, if you consider how many people fish with their stomach and not their spirit, and a fish to be caught is better than no fish to be caught, fluking can be fun. One other factor making fluke a popular draw is nostalgia. Many fishermen begin fishing by pursuing the bottom species with a hook, sinker and bait. Maybe with their Dad or Uncle Harry, whoever! So a good day's fluking not only recalls sweet memories, it lays bare for comparison. Fishermen always want to do better than the other time and at Montauk they expect the "better."

Having grown up fishing in the Bay area where a good day's fluking was the accepted norm, and big fish were common, I was not to be easily impressed. I can remember trips on head boats out of Sheepshead Bay, where at least a dozen fluke over 10 pounds would be placed on the balance scale for the day's pool winner. As a kid on Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge, I still have visions of 4 pound fluke pullling our floating corks out of sight while snapper fishing. Or catching 8 pounders under the Marine Parkway Bridge. Coming back full circle to the beginning required a fresh head approach to present day fluke fishing. The bottom line being that I accept it because of a demand by my customers.

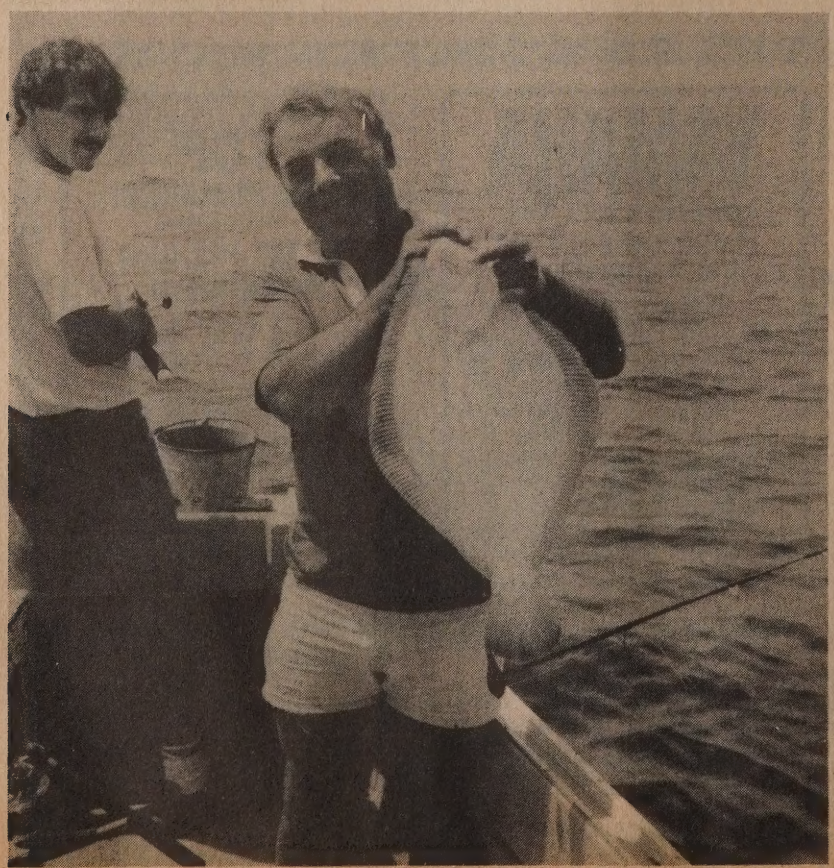
Keep in mind that fluking isn't what it used to be. Today's fluke fishing is harder and offers more of a challenge, thereby making it a worthy prey, like the "zip" in a sauce. Unfortunately, big fluke are harder to come by. Each year I see less and less of fishing starting from 8 pounds and up. At the present trend I believe those days are gone forever. Commercial interests have really put the hurt on the bottom fish. Not only are fluke dragged up along the beaches and in the bays, but also in their wintering home along the Continental Shelf.

After listening to many conversations aboard the "Vivienne," I can safely say that Montauk's fluke average a better size than the rest of Long Island. My fares speak of throwing back many of the fluke taken back to the west. Even in some spots that are noted for small, plentiful fluke out east, an average of 2 out of 3 can be legal size or at least 50 percent. Once again, being spoiled from past times and present location, I have difficulty accepting this as "good fishing." In past seasons, I chased after fluke with more consistency than years past. What I have discovered is that there remains a lot of areas that have not been explored. The followers jam up the traditional spots while only a small handful of fishermen know where and what to do. This same order exists in flounder fishing. Every year I see the need to find new spots to escape the crowds and pressures of overfishing an area.

Because of the large fishing areas within striking distance of Montauk, a thorough knowledge of all the available "spots," can take a lifetime of experience. There's Gardiner's Island, Block Island and Montauk. Montauk's local area alone can take years to understand. Tides vary greatly in Montauk and knowing the slack periods is extremely important when fluking the area. Particularly, the north side where tides are strongest. You can catch more in one hour at slack than during the five hours of running tide.

On the north side lies the well known "North Rips." These grounds are a favorite for the head boats and the site of the big boats on the horizon lure the followers. I remember first fishing these rips for fluke with Captain Spider Hegner and his brother Captain Teddy Hegner on the open boat, the "Harp." On clear days when visibility was good and you could take an effective range (a strong tide would also show the constant pattern of the desired rip) we caught big fluke. I caught the biggest fluke of my life that summer, a 15 pounder. That was 1954. Also in that year, the famous local spot known as Gin Beach had fluke jumping out of the water. It was no problem to fill a bushel with fluke while fishing from the beach. Here is where I learned to catch fluke on the bucktail.

Gin Beach still produces good numbers of the smaller fluke, even though it suffers severe fishing pressure from both commercial and sport. The beaches on the south side hold fluke of mixed sizes, but the



The deep water ledges north of the inlet still give up an occasional doormat.

correct tide is important here. So much so that it meant good fishing or no fishing. Some areas in and around Shagwong's two mile long reef surrendered respectable size fluke. A knowledge of Loran C is helpful here because some spots are very small. The deep water ledges north of the inlet give up doormats, but not in the numbers seen in years past. Fishing is never "hot" here as it is along the beach and catching only occurs at brief intervals of the tide. Still, your reward can be a very big fluke. Or as big as one can expect to find these days.

Gardiner's Island can be a hotspot. Many fluke fans run in that direction when clearing the jetty. Even a few Montauk head boats end up in that area when fluke become scarce locally.

Block Island has also come into focus for fluke these past few years. The Hooter Buoy has produced fluke of 3 pounds in heavy numbers in past years. All of Block Island is waiting to be discovered. I consider the island to be virgin territory, like fresh fruit on a tree beckoning for someone to come and pluck it.

Everyone has their own special fluke rig that they swear by. Not I! I avoid the garnishing and use a snelled 5/0 Sproat with an 18 inch, 30 pound test leader. I like to use a bucktail for myself, but find this method is limited to shallow spots and/or slack water. Also, many anglers don't have the skills to work the bucktail successfully. My baits are confined to fish belly. My preference for fresh bait leads me away from the frozen spearing and sand eels. Fresh baits of this variety would be excellent but are normally unavailable unless you catch your own. Hence, the fish belly, with bluefish belly as my first choice. Cut the baits small and narrow. My experience has shown that a big bait is not required for catching big fluke. A bait that matches the baitfish in the area is a better bait. When fishing Montauk's deep north side, a second rod armed with a weighted squid jig can be very useful. Squid will give themselves away by following the bait to the surface. That's the time to try your jig. Put the fresh caught squid on whole and use it while still alive. If the fluke are feeding on squid, you will not have to wait long.

Keep in mind that there are no magic fluke rigs and no miracle baits. You must be "over" the fish to catch them. Granted, the big bait specialist who spends all day in search of the Big One will eventually catch him. This is not for me. Action is the game with the occasional big one that shows up. Whatever your bag, Montauk offers the little guys on the beach or the doormats of the deep. Just don't expect to drift for miles and catch all the way. Shorter drifts over productive spots produce far better. Fluke frequent bottom areas like carpet. In some places, the lucky angler can find them "wall to wall," where a 9x12 can make your day.

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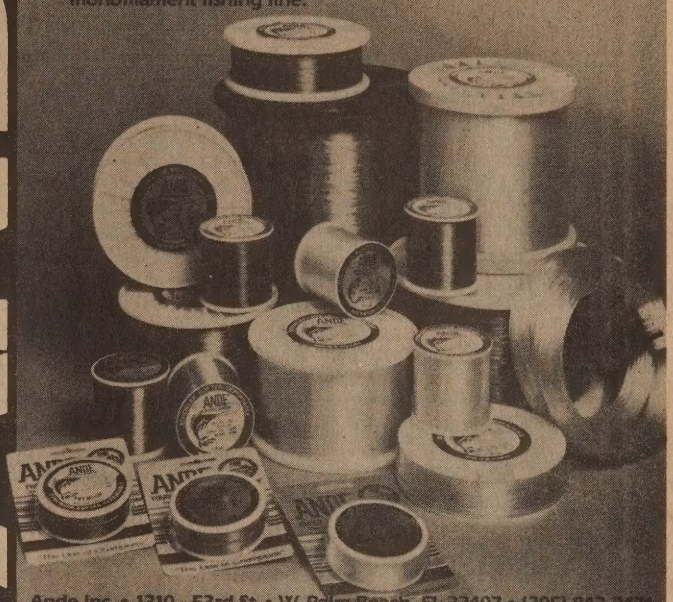

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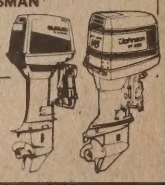

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LOCAL HOTSPOTS:

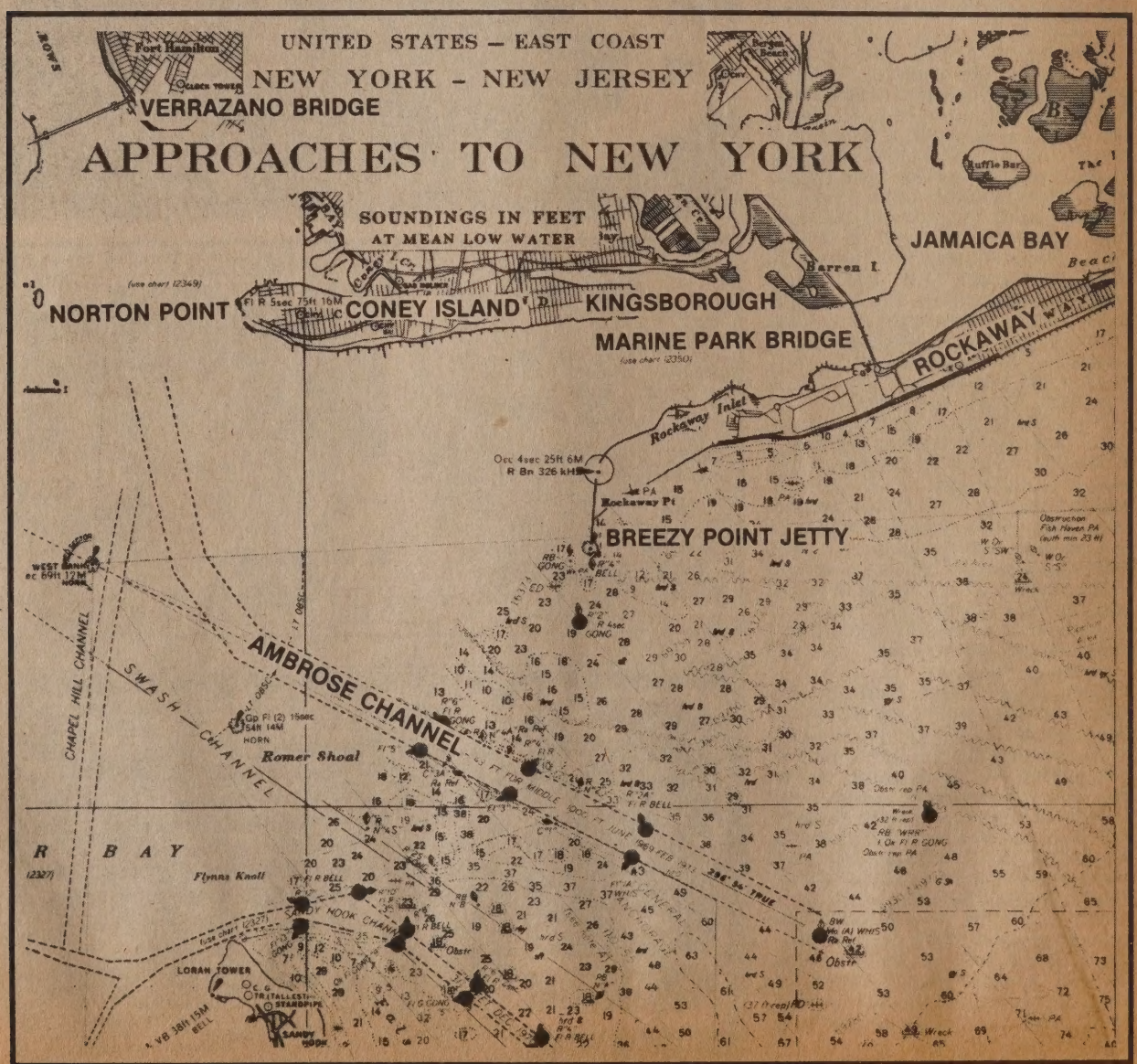
NEW YORK BIGHT

Part One—by Terry Maltese

Each season, New York Bight anglers encounter everything from porgies and flounder up to sharks and tuna. The New York Bight offers an incredibly vast array of fishing opportunities. The Bight contains so many fishing spots and so many different types of fish, it's quite difficult to determine a starting place and develop a pattern for describing this area and the terrific fishing which takes place here. After some serious thought, I've decided to go with the old standby of starting at the beginning. We will start with the furthest inshore spot, namely Jamaica Bay and in a roundabout way work ourselves further and further offshore.

Every spring, many fishermen start off their season with a flounder trip to Jamaica Bay. The good flounder fishing is only one reason why so many fishermen kick off their season in Jamaica Bay. The other reason is the protection which Jamaica Bay offers. Jamaica Bay is very well protected and is often much more pleasant than the unprotected areas of the Bight. This is particularly true during those windy early spring days.

Flounder, however, aren't the only prey of fishermen in Jamaica Bay. As the weather warms, fluke enter the bay. Fluke can be found scattered all over the bay, particularly along the Marine Park Wall, which has a launching ramp and a gas dock. Live killies are popular fluke baits inside the bay. We have found that more



often than not live killies, with or without a squid strip, outproduce sand eels and spearing.

Eventually porgies enter the bay and can be found practically everywhere. In the spring and fall, blackfish can be found at the bridges as well as the rock piles and obstructions on the bottom of the bay. Last spring during a flounder trip, we discovered a rock pile loaded with small blackfish. Believe it or not, mussels produced more fish here than fiddlers and green crabs did.

Bottom dwellers aren't the only fish which inhabit Jamaica Bay. We have caught some school bass and small blues at various spots throughout the bay. We've taken these fish on small bucktails, bait tails, and tins. Large bluefish and weakfish are often caught here at night by fishermen fishing whole and chunked bunker. Every year a few large bass are caught by these night fishermen.

As we head west and exit Jamaica Bay, we cross under the Marine Parkway Bridge, which produces some decent blackfish. West of the bridge is Plum Beach. One can often find a number of boats drifting for fluke along this beach. This is particularly true on those windy days when leaving the inlet is uncomfortable or unsafe.

West of Plum Beach is the channel which enters Sheepshead Bay. West of this channel is a stretch of beach, which begins with Kingsborough Community College. Moving west from Kingsborough comes Manhattan Beach, Coney Island and Norton's Point, which is only a short distance from the Verrazano Bridge. Fluke are often caught along this strip of land, particularly off Coney Island and Manhattan Beach. Quite a few bluefish are caught here each year by fishermen jigging and trolling umbrellas. Practically every evening and early morning the water around Kingsborough is loaded with bunker. This is where most of the area's fishermen snag and net their bunker.

Norton's Point produces loads of big bluefish each year. The most popular method for taking big blues here is anchoring up and fishing whole or chunked bunker. The most productive times are the evening, nighttime and early morning hours. Fishermen also troll umbrellas and bucktails on wire from Norton's Point to the Verrazano Bridge. These fishermen take a number of big bass and blues each year.

South of Coney Island is a strip of beach known as Breezy Point. The water along this beach sees some good flounder fishing each spring and fall. In the summer, the flounder are replaced by fluke and porgies. This beach runs right into the beginning of the Breezy Point Jetty. This jetty, which marks our inlet, is actually a continuation of the beach.

The jetty and a patch of water near the jetty, known as the Tin Can Grounds, sees quite a bit of action each year. Flounder are the main attraction for fishermen in this area during the spring and fall. In the summer loads of boats can be seen drifting for fluke in this area. Porgies can be found scattered all over this area and blackfish can be found on the area's wrecks and rock patches. The very popular Warrior Wreck is only a few miles from the jetty.

Despite the good bottom fishing here, bluefish are probably the most popular species in the area. Some fishermen anchor up near the tip of the jetty, chum and baitfish with whole, live or dead bunker. These fishermen catch mostly big blues with a good share of bass and weakfish mixed in. This fishing is basically limited to the early morning hours. Another common early morning scene here is fishermen trolling for bass. This is usually done by trolling bucktails on wire near the tip of the jetty. Some caution and common sense should be exercised here. The current near the jetty can be strong and can easily smash a boat's hull on the jetty's rocks. Don't get too close to the jetty and be alert in case the anchor slips. The jetty will show no mercy.

Jigging is undoubtedly the most common method of bluefishing in this area. A27s are the standard lure for jigging bluefish. However, a number of fishermen are now using a smaller version of the A27, known as an 007. The 007 allows the angler to use lighter equipment, which certainly adds to the fun. This type of fishing has become quite popular during the afternoon and early evening hours. Both party and private boats have been cashing in on this prime time action.

When trying to locate fish it is important to scan the water. Very often you will see fish breaking water or some diving birds. Don't drive right into the school. This will scatter the fish and drive them down deep. Run the boat around the diving birds or breaking fish, stop the boat updrift of them, and allow the boat to drift into them.

Fishermen in this area employ another very effective method of locating fish. They troll umbrella rigs on wire line until a fish strikes. Then they turn and pass through the same area again. If they receive a second strike, they pull up the umbrellas and begin jigging in that spot. This method allows fishermen to cover a fairly large area in a relatively short period of time.

Weakfish are not as abundant as they once were, but some decent catches are made each year. The bait tail was once the most popular weakfish lure in the Bight. Then came along a lure similar to the bait tail, except that it had a long whippy tail which gave it more action. This lure is known as the Nordic Eel. The lure is simply cast out, allowed to settle on the bottom, and slowly retrieved.

Next week we'll leave the jetty and cover areas such as Ambrose Channel, Ambrose Tower, the BA buoy, 17 Fathoms and The Farms.

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BY FRED GUARDINEER

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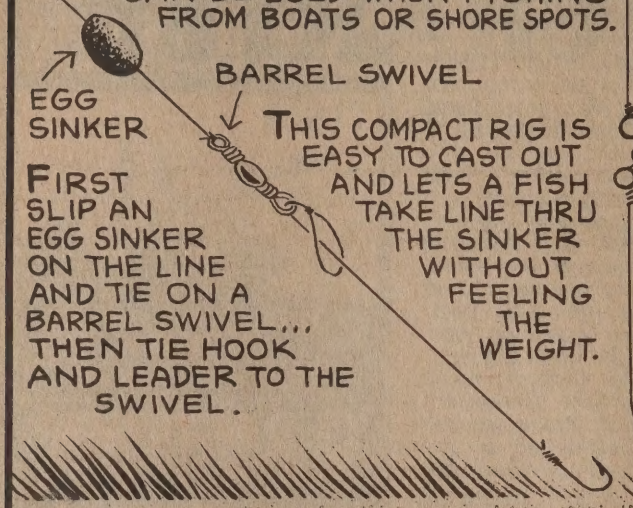

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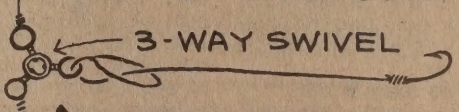
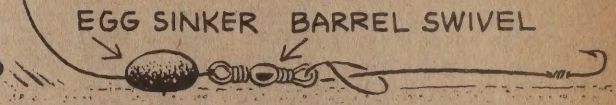
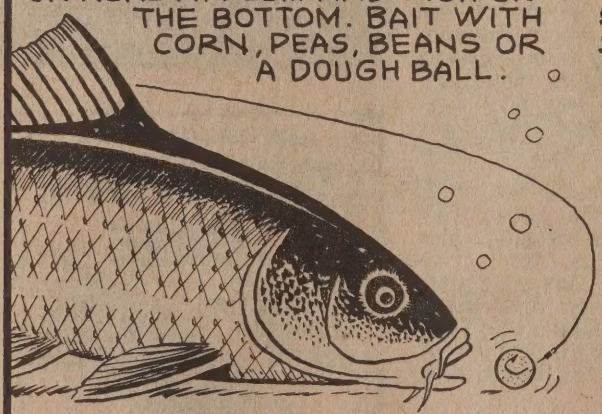


A 3-WAY SWIVEL IS TIED TO THE LINE BY THE TOP EYE, A SHORT LEADER AND HOOK TO THE MIDDLE EYE WITH THE SLIDING SINKER RIG TO THE BOTTOM EYE.

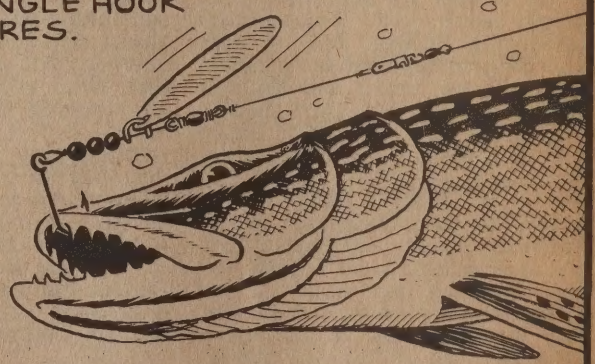
USED FOR FLUKE, PORGIES, SEA BASS AND OTHER BOTTOM SPECIES.



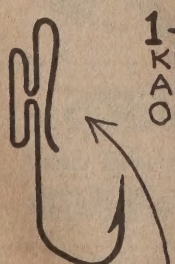
ALTHOUGH CARP ARE CONSIDERED COARSE FISH, YOU NEED FINE TERMINAL GEAR TO CATCH THEM. USE A LIGHT LEADER, SMALL HOOK, TINY SINKER OR NONE AT ALL... AND FISH ON THE BOTTOM. BAIT WITH CORN, PEAS, BEANS OR A DOUGH BALL.



SHORT-SHANK HOOKS HOLD FIGHTING FISH BETTER THAN HOOKS WITH LONG SHANKS BECAUSE FISH CAN GET ENOUGH LEVERAGE ON A LONG-SHANK HOOK TO TWIST IT OUT. WHEN YOU HAVE A CHOICE, USE A SHORT-SHANK HOOK, BOTH WITH BAIT AND SINGLE HOOK LURES.



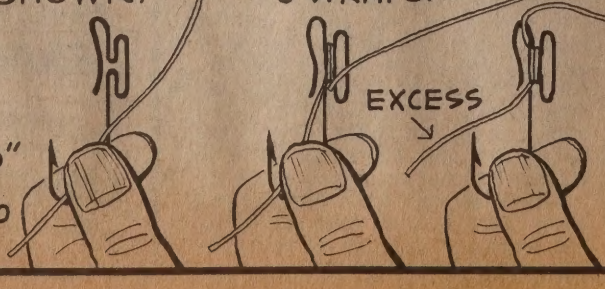
"NO KNOTS" IS A NEW HOOK YOU CAN FASTEN TO YOUR LINE WITHOUT TYING ANY KIND OF A KNOT. IT AVOIDS SLIPPING ON THE LINE AND HOLDS BAIT FISH BY THE HEAD WHILE YOU PLACE A TRAILING HOOK AS FAR BACK AS YOU WANT TO PLACE IT... BECOMES A WEEDLESS PLASTIC WORM ADOPTION FOR BASS BY IMPLANTING BOTH ENDS OF THE HOOK INTO THE LURE...



1-HOLD THE "NO KNOTS" HOOK AND LINE IN ONE HAND AS SHOWN.

2-WRAP LINE AROUND THE "T" PROJECTING AT THE BACK OF THE HOOK FOR ABOUT 6 WRAPS.

3-BRING LINE BEHIND PROJECTION AT FRONT OF HOOK AND UP THROUGH FRONT PROJECTION... TRIM OFF EXCESS LINE.



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PREPARING FOR AN OFFSHORE CHARTER

by Art Michaels

The captain and mate can show you the fine fishing points but there are other ways to make your adventure more enjoyable.

If you've taken offshore charters before, you know to show up at the dock with more than just the clothes on your back. If you've never chartered an offshore trip, you may be wondering what to bring and how to prepare in other ways to get the most from your trip.

Your offshore trip will likely last all day, and you can count on being on the boat for 12 hours or more. That's why making yourself comfortable with everything you need can help make your trip pleasant. The captain and the mate will tell you exactly how best to fish. Here are other ideas on how to get ready for the trip and what to bring. Let these tips help you set the stage for a terrific adventure.

1. Preventing seasickness. First things first. If you are prone to seasickness, consult your doctor about prescribing a preventative. One of the newest effective remedies is Transderm-V, the behind-the-ear patch. You press a Band-Aid-like patch on the hairless part behind either ear, and for as long as three days, you absorb a seasickness remedy through the skin. This item is a prescription drug in many states.

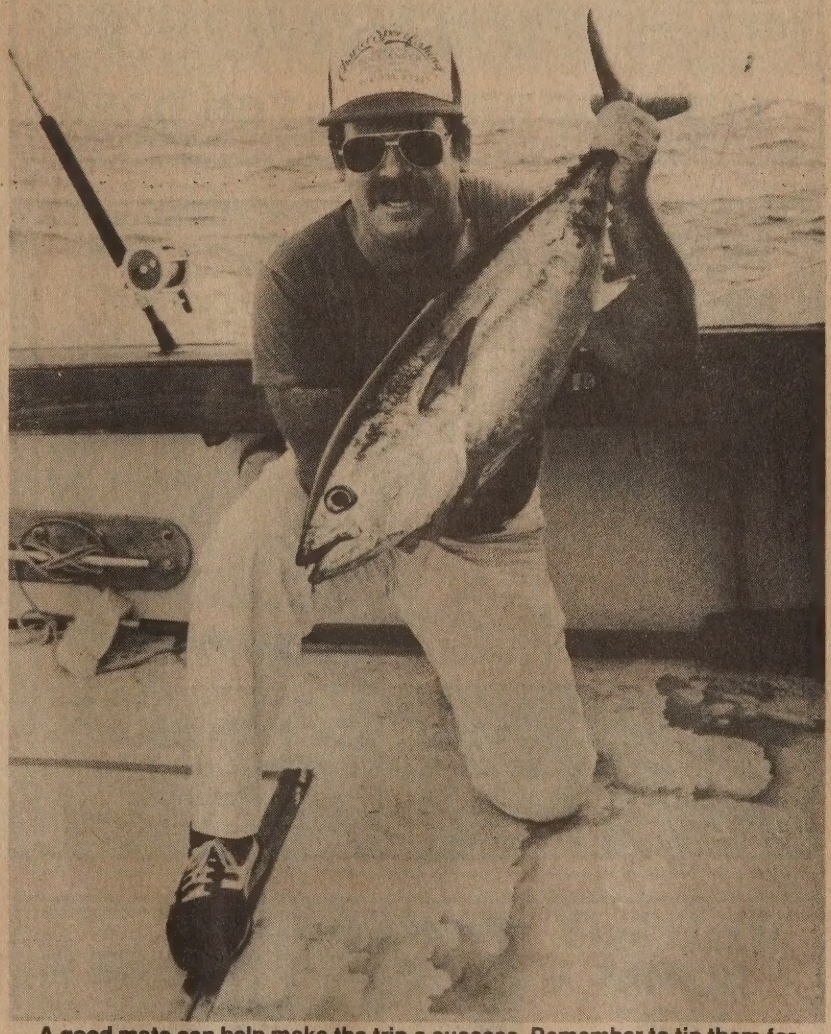
Another remedy is called Sea-Tone. It contains the same drug as the patch, but in a smaller dose in capsule form. Sea-Tone is available over the counter.

Still another cure is Bonine, a pill available over the counter.

I've used all these, and each is effective. The Bonine makes me a little drowsy, though.

2. Shoving off rested. My last offshore tuna charter required us to be at the dock ready to go at 4AM. I'm still trying to decide if that was early morning or late at night. In any case, when you're scheduled to leave at an hour like that, make arrangements to sleep before you board the boat.

Some of my fishing friends aren't bothered at all by missing a night's sleep. Others just can't handle it. I think that a well-rested fisherman can best enjoy the charter and hang in there to haul in those huge offshore gamesters. Nevertheless, your charter captain may tell you to be ready at the dock around midnight. Then you will likely be able to nap on the run to the fishing grounds and back to the dock, depending on the charter boat and the seas.



A good mate can help make the trip a success. Remember to tip them for a job well done.

Know your own limits and requirements. You're ahead of the game if you board reasonably rested, even though sometimes that's not practical.

3. Bringing food and drink. Go easy on both for about 12 hours before you board. Eating and drinking too much can lead to your getting seasick.

You might want to bring a small cooler with sandwiches and a beverage kept cold with ice. I do this regularly, and I also bring some snacks and my 16 ounce thermos of coffee.

4. Changing clothes. I bring along a daypack in which I always carry a complete change of clothes. On a recent offshore trip, while holding up a gaffed 40 pound yellowfin and

(Continued on next page.)

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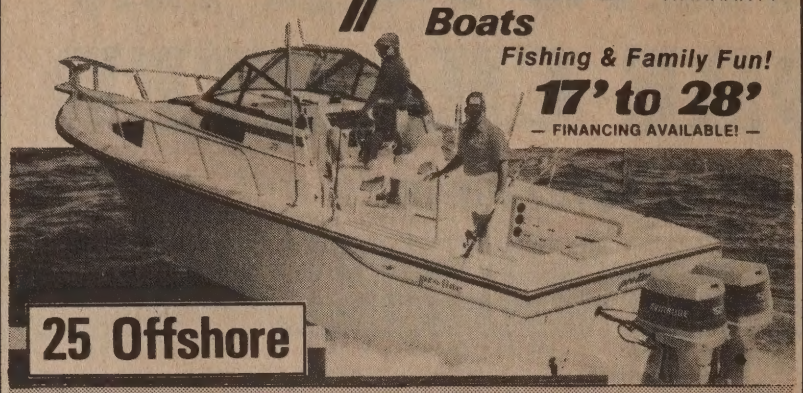
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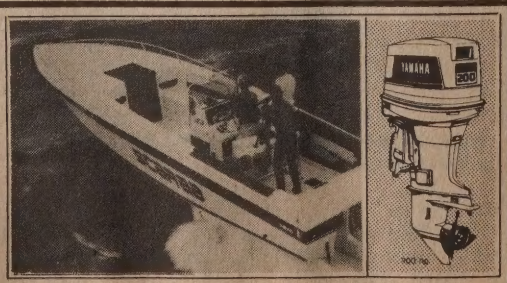

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OUTBOARDS by YAMAHA

posing for the camera, the fish bled all over me. I changed clothes so that we could take better pictures and so that I wouldn't have to marinate all day in tuna blood.

In addition, I usually show up at the dock in long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Seashore mosquitoes always seem to be 10 times larger than anything you've ever seen, and they love to ambush you at the dock. Even in summer, the cool air temperature and early morning sea breeze can require the long sleeves.

As the day gets hotter, I often change to shorts and a T-shirt. The sneakers and socks get replaced by flip-flops. Nevertheless, the weather offshore can be very different from conditions back at the dock, so I also prepare for cooler temperatures with a summer-weight chamois shirt and a light jacket. In spring and fall, heavier, warmer clothes, jackets and coats are the order of the day. I also pack a rainsuit.

I cram all this extra clothing into my daypack. But I'm prepared for all kinds of weather. By all means, do take clothing that you probably won't need, just in case. My rule is that when I bring along a special item of clothing, I don't need it. Forget it, though, and it's the first thing I regret leaving home.

5. Taking pictures. A photograph of you holding up your catch while you're still out there on the bounding main is the best way to remember your trip. I bring just about all my camera gear for an offshore trip, and all of it is stored in a small camera bag. Put the bag in a storage compartment or in the boat's cabin until you're ready to photograph your catch. In this way, you keep the gear out of the way and you prevent saltwater from getting on it.

If you fish often, you may want to consider putting your gear in an aluminum boat that's watertight and that protects your gear best from bumps. These expensive, but reliable metal boxes are made by Zero Halliburton and Pelican, among others.

On just about all my trips, I shoot most of my pictures using a 28mm wide angle lens. This lens lets me take in the entire scene in the close quarters of the charter boat deck.

For print film, try the commonly available films with ASAs of 100 or 200. For slide films, try Kodachrome 64 or the Agfa and Fuji equivalents, or Ektachrome 100 or 200, or the Agfa and Fuji equivalents. You'll get sharp pictures from these films and even on overcast days you still have plenty of light. These same films work well at night with electronic flash.

6. Bringing fishing tackle. Should you bring your own? Depends. The boat usually has everything you'll need, but I sometimes bring along my own tackle for special situations.

For example, when we've trolled for tuna recently, the bluefish were so thick only 26 miles offshore that we could hardly keep them off the skip

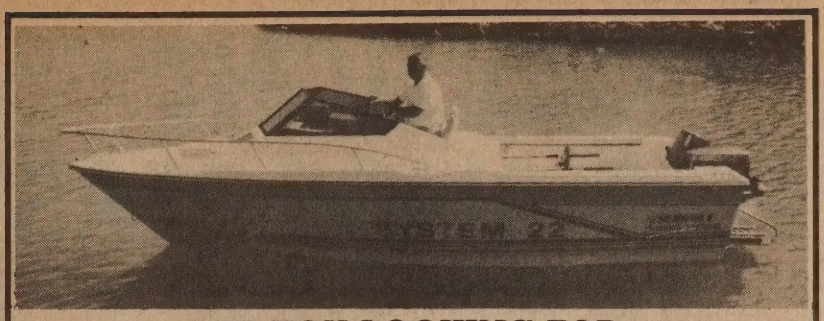
"I'd have to recommend a shorter rod off the pier than you would use for the surf. Something around 7 feet with a heavier action. Line should be between 15 to 17 with 20 pound test being the top end for general fishing. For fluke fishing you should have a slightly less stiff rod with lighter tip action. You can work the bait better and feel the small taps that a fluke will give you to indicate their presence.

"For bluefish you should have about a six inch wire leader. Any hook from 1/0 to 4/0 should do the job. We like a 24 inch mono leader if you aren't using wire. If you are using metal, then you should, depending upon your rod, use something between one and three ounces in weight. The metal lure with a plastic tail is very popular and productive. In fact, in the fall of the year, that's just about all the serious fishermen use. The blues hit poppers and slow fished Needlefish plugs. Bombers, Redfins and deep diving Rebels are also good choice.

"Pier fishing normally starts early in the spring but this year we had 24 days in April when it rained. That and cold weather slowed it down, but we have had some good runs in May. Excellent runs, in fact. By the end of June the fluke will be moving in. They really catch a lot of them from this pier during July and August. This is a good time for family fishing because only the serious fluke fishermen are up here then and it's not that crowded. Live killies are probably the best bait followed by sand eels, spearing and squid strips. The weakfish come in during the nighttime hours at this time. It's not like it is in September, however, when the mullet start running and we get good runs of bluefish, striped bass and weakfish.

"There should be bass up here every morning and again in the evening. But morning is the best time for the striped bass. There is normally a good run of weakfish, too. Then in October and November the runs of bluefish are unbelievable. Sometimes they are here all day. One of the other things the pier is known for is shark fishing. We do permit it and the fishermen get a lot of blue and sand sharks. These range in weight from 5 pounds up to 50 or 60 pounds.

"We have a small tournament for the anglers with weekly and yearly prizes for the biggest fish caught on the pier. There is a $6 a year entry fee, but the prize list should also tell you something about the different fish that are available out here. These include ling, whiting, shark, blackfish, fluke, bluefish, as well as the weakfish and striped bass. This is my first year up here, so I don't know how much of a demand we are going to have for winter fishing. But we know the fall of the year has excellent fishing, so we plan to stay open at least until Christmas. Between now and then there should be some very exciting fishing. Come on up and have a go at it," concluded John Bushell.



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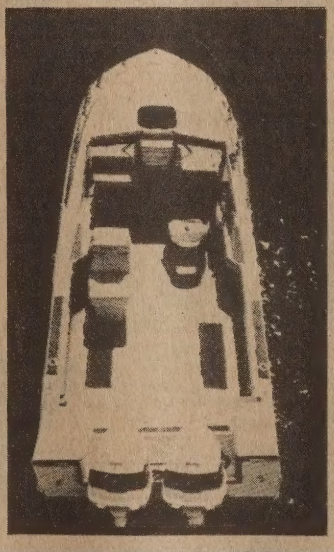

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GO LIGHT FOR SNAPPERS

by Drew Springer

Catching snapper blues can give you fast action and a full fish box quickly from a boat or from shore. Catching snapper blues provides an easy, quick trip when you have little time for more involved jaunts. Catching snapper blues is a great way to introduce kids to fishing.

Snappers (young bluefish) are so much fun to catch and they're so cooperative, you never forget great snapper action. Even today, some 35 years after being introduced to the sport, I still like to tempt them. But when I'm after snappers these days, I always go light.

When bluefish spawn in the ocean in April or May, the young, fully developed fish head inshore, usually in June, to the protected waters of bays and estuaries. These fish provide our snapper fishery. By July, fish are often about 6 inches long, but by the time inshore water temperatures cool, signaling their time to head for warmer, deeper water, they can be 12 inches long or better, and the light-tackle action can be hot.

My light tackle for blues consists mainly of a 5 foot graphite spinning rod that I pair with a Penn 716Z spooled with 6 lb. Trilene XL. With this outfit I fish lures and bait.

One good thing about snapper fishing is that when the fish are taking lures, they'll hit just about anything. I have some favorites, though. Spoons in my tackle box always get the nod for snappers. A couple of good choices are the 1/4 ounce Dardevle in nickel finish or red and white, or a nickel finsih 1/4 ounce Little Cleo. I also a 1/8 ounce Hopkins. Fish spoons with a smooth retrieve. The built-in action of the spoon make it look like a baitfish that's swimming erratically.

Snappers can be suckers for jigs, too. Eighth or quarter ounce white round jigheads matched with 2 inch Mister Twister tails are effective. The larger size jig head is useful when you want to cast great distances. The Twister tails in white, clear flake, motor oil and motor oil flake work well. I've also scored with tails that were white with pink tips. Small, white bucktails work well, too. The smaller sized saltwater sizes, down to 1/4 ounce are good.

I cast bucktails and jigs to breaking fish or to snappers I locate from my boat's Lowrance X-4. I often jerk or jig the rod during a retrieve that varies from moderately fast to very fast. Fast retrieve reels with gear ratios of at least 5:1 are best so that you can retrieve lures very quickly.

Sometimes it's a good idea to tip your jigs and bucktails for smell with squid or spearing. I keep the squid or spearing small because snappers are notorious bait stealers, and if you don't get them snapping near your hook, they'll clean you every time.

Top-water offerings are fun to fish. I like the small size Phillips Crippled Killers, Zara Spooks, Jitterbugs and similar plugs with and without propellers.

To modify most of your top-water lures, remove the lure's middle treble hook and replace the tail hook with a stainless steel treble that's slightly oversized. These changes let you unhook snappers quickly and safely. You can either dispatch them to your fish box fast, or throw them back quickly and get back into the action.

My son cut his saltwater teeth on snappers. They're a great place to start someone young or old in the sport of saltwater fishing. A few years ago, I stopped by Betty and Nick's Tackle Shore in Seaside Park one August evening with my son. We picked up some frozen spearing and headed for a Barnegat Bay bulkhead. I used 8 bronze baitholding hooks about 12 to 15 inches below an inch thick yellow and orange bobber. My son's outfit was a Zebco Snoopy rod and reel combo, his first.

I showed him how to cast the rig and he winged one out about 12 feet. The bobber plopped onto the water and I explained to him that a fish biting the bait would cause the bobber to move. That's when he should lift the rod smartly, hooking the fish. The bait barely had time to settle and my explanation barely had time to sink in when the bobber jerked. It bounced once straight up and down, hard enough to sink the bobber and then send it jumping out of the water.

I told my son that he was getting a bite. He picked up the rod, gathered in the slack line as he was told, and waited. A moment later, the bobber careened to the left and gurgled out of sight underwater.

"Hook 'em, Sam," I said, "Hook 'em!" He did and the wide-eyed four-year-old boy with his Snoopy outfit fought his first saltwater fish, a lively snapper, onto the bulkhead.

The action continued like that for an hour or so. He landed about 8 or 9 snappers, losing about twice that many. Today, he remembers that introduction to saltwater fishing as I do and we often relive that first saltwater trip when we look over the snapshots.

Don't get the wrong idea. Snappers are great for kids, but lots of seasoned fishermen also go after them. I still do, too. I'll never forget a trip I made two years ago in October to the mouth of the Choptank River in Chesapeake Bay. It was reported that blues were swirling there regularly in enormous acre-sized schools. I had to check that out.

Sure enough, five miles west of the launch ramp in Cambridge we eased our boat into a large cove near the edge of a line of occasional swirls. We

The author nailed this 8 inch snapper with a small spoon. Light tackle with an arsenal of spoons and plugs is good for tangling with snappers.

shut down the engine and drifted closer to the activity. Snappers, like bigger blues, can be spooked easy by growling outboards and noisy fishermen. Quiet approaches are always wise.

I rigged my trusty nickel Little Cleo and flung it into the swirls. After cranking the reel handle several times—bump...bump—then YOW! A solid strike and a well timed setting of the hook and I had one on peeling line off the Penn. These fish were about 15 inches and they thrilled us seasoned anglers for hours with ultralight spinning tackle, as we chased them all over the mouth of the river.

Whe you go for snappers in a boat and toss lures for them, use an 8 inch section of Ande 20 pound mono as a leader. I shy away from wire leader because I think it often alerts the fish and interferes with the action of those light lures. Snappers have sharp teeth, so change the leader when it begins to fray.

You have to be daring to try for big blues with a light fly rod, but I love to take snappers on an 8 foot graphite fly rod for 8 weight line. When the action is on top, I often give the ultralight spinning gear a rest and break out the trout fly rod for terrific sport.

Try streamers and bass bugs for snappers. If you like a tapered leader, add your 20 pound mono section to the tippet. I just use an 8 foot section of 8 pound mono with the heavier 20 pound piece at the end. I use weight forward floating line with 100 or so yards of 20 pound dacron backing.

Rip those bugs and streamers across the surface as fast and as noisily as you can. Make the offering look like a baitfish that's getting away.

You can use that trout rod on snappers, but don't play a snapper like a trout. The bigger ones will rip the line out of your hand, giving new meaning to the words, "rope burn." Keep your knuckles away from the reel handle, too, especially at the beg beginning of the battle. Palm the bottom of the reel to create drag.

Snapper fishing from a boat is terrific sport and if you own a fly rod, don't miss the chance to take snappers with it.

Whether you go after snappers from shore or from a boat, the best times and tides are difficult to predict. The best strategy is to inquire at bait and tackle shops that advertise in The Fisherman. In the ads you can conveniently get phone numbers and store hours.

Call the shops for the word on snapper action, and don't miss it when a pattern develops. For instance, you'll likely have good luck if snappers show up hungry for several consecutive evenings or mornings in one spot.

Whatever your fishing pleasure, grab the light spinning outfit or the fly rod and tangle with snappers. They're hungry, always willing and great sport.

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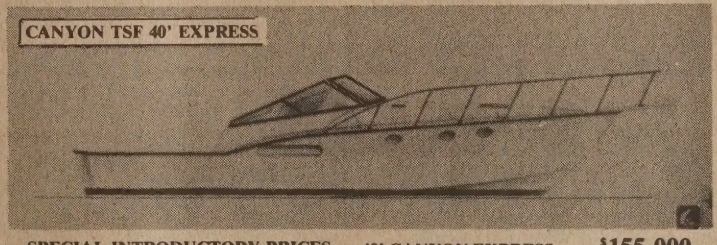

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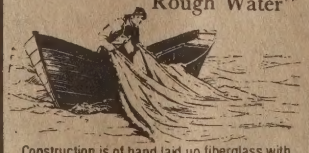

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TROLLING WITH PLEASURE

by Dick Alley

Wire line outfit too big and cumbersome for you? Try this method.

I have in my garage a pair of wire line trolling outfits. The heavy duty rods can only be described as stiff action, with roller tips, suitable for mounting Penn 49M reels: one equipped with 200 yards of 40 pound wire, and the other with 100 yards of 40 pound wire.

Over several years, these outfits accounted for plenty of bluefish, for there was a time when bluefishing was synonymous with heading for deep water and dropping a heavy lure, weighing 4 or 5 ounces, way down deep. For a long time, only wire line could get it down there. Then came downriggers, which I must admit I never really got into.

Last year, however, I made a trip with an old friend. Captain Peter Kriewald, who skippers the Tigra-II out of Norwalk, Conn. He and I were celebrating our retirements from jobs with the Town of Westport. More accurately, we were celebrating our new careers, which in a word is called "fishing!" On this day, Pete had promised to show me some new tricks trolling monofilament.

It was one those afternoons when a die-hard fisherman has to kind of sneak out between the showers. Distant boomers could be heard over toward the Long Island shore, but a few sprinkles barely dampened the deck of the Tigra-II as we pulled out of Cove Marina in Norwalk. Jeff Slater was mating for the day, and he was digging busily in the tackle bag before we passed the Captain Bill Clark Pier en route to Westport waters. Out came a couple of long slender lures, aptly called Slivers. Each was rigged with a monofilament leader about six feet in length. Pete tossed Jeff another lure package, this one containing a "Jawbreaker," a bigger, more rugged looking swimmer, but also with the long blade on the nose to make the lure dive down deep. I watched as Jeff rigged each rod. Each lure had the leader attached directly. Forty pound monofilament was passed through a crimp sleeve, looped through the eye of the lure, then back through the sleeve. The crimp was squeezed shut, making a strong bond. At the other end of the leader, a similarly large loop was formed. In rigging the leader to the line, this loop is then passed through the tunnel in an egg sinker. The crimp holds the sinker at the end of the leader, allowing plenty of action on

Jeff Slater, mate on the charter boat, Tiagra II, gets set to throw a bluefish back. Westport shoreline with Compo Mill Cove on right is in the background.

the lure, and lets the sinker ride even with, or below the depth of the lure itself. Jeff rigged one outfit using a one ounce sinker, the next a two ounce, and left the Jawbreaker unweighted. We'd made our way through the cut between Cockenoe Island and Saugatuck Shroes. The tide was up, and only a light wind put a small chop on the surface.

Pete wasn't saying much, his attention divided between the surface of the water and the color video fish-finder mounted over his head. We were heading northeast through Westport's outer harbor and had barely gotten past the bug light when Pete hollered, "Get those lines over. I'm marking lots of fish." Jeff and I each grabbed a rod, put the reels in free spool and let the line flow from the reels. "Count to 20," said Jeff, and I counted to 24, threw the brake forward on the reel, heard a whoop to my left and turned to see Jeff's rod arched and a decent fish taking line against the drag. "I told you—20," laughed Jeff. He'd hardly said it when my first fish hit. It happened lots quicker than the words read, for the rod I was handling was suddenly jolted almost from my grip. I raised the rod tip and felt the pulsating throb of another good fish.

unlike the super stiff trolling rods needed for handling wire, we were playing fish on a pair of Daiwa trolling sticks. The Daiwa rods of the 20 pound class, were mounting Penn Mag 10 reels, loaded with 12 pound test monofilament. The Mag 10 is a fast retrieve reel, capable of holding lots of light line. A similar reel is the Shimano 100GT or 200GT. They handled the fish well, allowing me to feel the fight all the way, but offering the confidence needed to handle big fish without losing them.

The big lures made releases fairly easy and we wasted no time getting them back in the water. This time I counted to 20 and again had an immediate hit as soon as the brake was set. We were trolling on a line from the northeast corner of Cockenoe Island towards the pavilion at Sherwood Island State Park and fish must have filled the entire harbor area. Without the electronics, there wasn't a clue to their presence. No breaks—and no bait. They ranged in size from 4 to 8 pounds, and after a few, our arms were aching.

"Let's pull those lines in," Pete said suddenly. Jeff and I put some pressure on the fish we were playing, as we glanced to the northwest sky where Pete was pointing. "This one's not going to miss us," he added. We quickly swung the blues aboard as Pete cranked the engines and turning, made a bee-line for Compo Basin in Westport which just happened to be the closest place to run. A few minutes later, we tied up to the gas dock at Compo, popped the lid on a can or two of Miller Lite and proceeded to wait out the storm.

Between lunch and the deluge that pounded on the overhead, we discussed the advantages of light tackle trolling over wire line and vice versa.

Wire line fishing is very productive, but has its disadvantages, too. If it's production fishing you're after, little can beat umbrella rigs fished down deep on wire. The name of the game though is numbers, and the bigger fish seldom hit the umbrella rigs. That's not to say that wire line doesn't produce big fish. Lures like the Big Daddy from Goo-Goo Eyes, the Danny Plugs and the Atoms, Big and Jr., will almost constantly produce bigger than normal fish. The weight of the wire itself brings these lures to a fishable depth, but we sacrifice in getting there. Certainly the fish fight hard, and yes, they will put a bend in the broom handle-like sticks required to handle the heavy wire. Still in all, we don't feel the fight that monofilament has to offer. When we get inexperienced anglers aboard, things become even more complicated. That's why the mate almost always lets out line when trolling aboard a charter boat. Wire can snarl and kink easily, especially when in the hands of someone who doesn't know how to handle it. A kink in the line can mean the purchase of another 100 yards of line for the captain. Likewise, reels capable of handling wire line require an educated thumb to spool the line on evenly. Monofilament fished on reels like the Penn Msag 10, and the Shimano 100GT, both level-wind reels, spools on evenly no matter who is handling the rod and reel.

Fishing wire line is work. We don't really notice it when a fish hits and is played back to the boat. That's called gratification. However, should that lure pick up some grass or seaweed and have to be hauled back in—now that's called work!

Lure design gets better each season. Lures like the Slivers, the Jawbreakers, the Big-O by Cotton Cordell, and the Rapala Magnums, all catch fish and plenty of them. The lures themselves are light in weight, but designed to dive deep, and the action of the lure can be easily checked with a glance at the rod tip when trolling.

The rain was letting up, and the lightning and thunder was now well east of us, out in mid-Sound. The sky to our west still looked ominous, and it was decision time. We could go back out and fish, but the tide was dropping and it would soon be too low to make it back through the cut, requiring a long trip back around Cockenoe Island should a squall hit.

Deciding wasn't really that big a problem. Thundershowers and fishing don't mix. We'd had our day, and it had been a good one. We'd also learned a few things and it was still early in the season. Arriving back at Cove Marina, I thanked Pete for a great day. He laughed, chewing a bit harder on the old cigar. "You don't think I told you everything, do you?" he asked. "I'm saving some stuff for the next trip." With Pete's permission, we'll pass it along.

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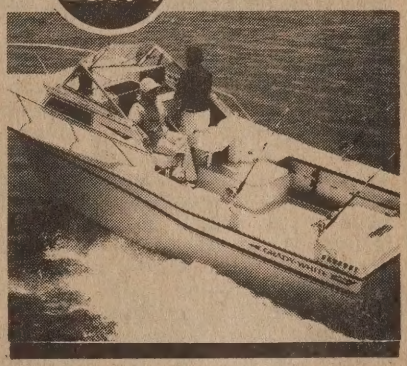

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Hot action all with yellowfin tuna at three locations off Montauk loaded with tuna of over 100 lbs. Problem is to be in the right spot at the right time. A sprinkling of school bluefin have added interest. Inshore, fluke and bluefish dominate the scene, with fluke to 12 lbs. on the weekend.

MONTAUK

Captain Jay Rigano reported a nice tuna catch on the charter boat **Lori Jay** on Thursday's trip with B&L Plumbing. Using 80 pound tackle, the group landed two 40 lb. albacore, a bluefin of 100 lbs. and 6 allison tuna all over 100 lbs. in a three hour frenzy. The tuna bite was in progress at 5AM and came to an abrupt halt at 8AM. Saturday's trip with Mario Falco and friends ended up with three yellowfins caught trolling, with no fish caught in the previous spot.

Captain Mike Bentivegna Jr., of **Pronto Charters** reported hot tuna action all week, except for a slow bite on Saturday. Charters during the week included Tony Stigliano with 5 yellowfin to 140 lbs. on Monday; Jim Ifon on Tuesday with tuna to 150 lbs.; an overnight trip with Jim Hanarahan that resulted in 7 yellowfin to 140 lbs. Sunday's trip was very good. Captain Mike has a few weekday dates open. Call for information.

David Chambers who had never caught a big fish in Indiana had his dream come true when he landed a giant bluefin weighing 446 lbs. on Tuesday on the **Gusto**. Captain Weiss reported plenty of yellowfin around, with a very good bite on Sunday. Charters average five per trip. Some small bluefins (60 to 120 lbs.) showed up on the weekend.

Plenty of tuna brought into the **Montauk Marine Basin** on Sunday. Charter boats based at the marina, such as **Vivienne, Kellyboat** and **Montauk** returned with a load of yellowfin to 145 lbs. Private boats berthed at the marina such as "Deep Quest," "Flora R," and "Sheria" did as well. A giant bluefin of 360 was brought in on "Cummings" on Sunday.

Chuck Cogswell weighed tuna all week long at **Star Island Yacht Club**, mostly yellowfin and allison tuna from 68 to 183 lbs., the "Perigee High" coming in with the 183 lber. Marina boats returning with tuna on Sunday included five tuna, ranging from 86 to 116 lbs. by Capt. Skip Gula on "Anthony's Hide-a-Way" and four, ranging from 68 to 128 lbs. on "Take Five." For a change of pace, "Hawknest" tried Cox's Ledge for cod, returning with a cooler full of good size cod.

Captain Bill Ricca states that the tuna action on **Alyssa Ann** is red hot, with catches of 3 to 8 fish a day, mostly yellowfins to 200 lbs., with a few albacore of 40 lbs. in the catch. Last week's catches include a good catch for a charter from the Daily News with Dom and Chuck Giglio, Steve Rubino, Tommy Saverese and Mark Logerfo, with albacore and yellow fin to 175 lbs. fought on stand-up tackle. Dr. Bob Fleischman of Montauk returned with 5 yellowfin to 126 lbs. On Friday's charter, only the women fished; Dianne Greco, Chris Beaman and Eva Nori fighting several albacore and yellowfin to 147 lbs. Thursday's action was so furious that the Lee family went home early after landing seven yellowfin to 136 lbs., and wanted no more!

Tuna action remains steady, according to Captain Mike Albronda, the only trick is to guess where they are gong to bite each day. While Saturday was a bit slow, on Sunday anglers on the charter boat **Montauk** boated six tuna before 9AM, weighing from 110 to 145 lbs.

Joe Turner decked this pool winning 53 lb. cod during a 7-28 trip to Coxes Ledge aboard the Montauk open boat, "Viking Star."

Captain Jim Flowers located 8 yellowfin on Monday with the Malinjak brothers who travelled from various locations on the East Coast to stage a family reunion on the **Mary A.** Largest tuna caught on the trip weighed 167 lbs. Saturday's trip with Mr. Mallon and his three sons was slow, since only one fish was boated. However, in Sunday with the Suba group the tuna bit well since 6 yellowfin and a bluefin of 186 lbs. were boated. A 6/0 reel loaded with 80 lb. test was stripped by a fish, several others were dropped.

On the charter boat **Adios**, Captain Phil Lewis reported good yellowfin action during the week, with 1 to 6 tuna boated each trip, all fish over 100 lbs., some to 150 fish—which separate the men from the boys! On Sunday, the tuna bit well, with Mike Albetta's group returning with 5 tuna, each over 125 lbs. A shark charter with John Bezinski encountered a mess of blue shark. Eight were fought and released on Thursday.

Lots of tuna were seen on **Tuma's Dock and Tackle** all week, with boats including **Orion**, "Abracadabra" and "Big Wink" returning with fine catches. "Sport Fisher," which has been concentrating on bluefish had loaded up each trip.

Captain Howard Kiedaisch reported very good catches on the charter boat **Reel Magic**, with some charters such as Barry and Alex calling it an early day after catching yellowfin to 142 lbs. Sunday's group, Wayne, Chris and Brad had a good day with four tuna.

It was tuna all week, except Saturday, on the **King Wayne**, Saturday's group that included Joe Catrone and his friends opted for cod, catching 52 up to 10 lbs. in weight, along with 30 bluefish. Tuna trips average 4 to 6 yellowfins per trip. Friday, Mr. Chraldi fought a 180 lb. yellowfin. On Sunday, after boating two yellowfin, a group from Schwank Dairy fought a giant for two hours before the line popped.

Most charter boats based at **Captain's Cove Marina** concentrated on tuna, with good catches reported on the **Mako Express** (including a white marlin); **Windy, Mary A, Kraken III** and **Mistress Too**. Giant tuna are still in the picture. Early last week, a 400 lb. bluefin was caught on **Joy-Sea**. Al Rispoli landed a 518 lb. giant after a 2 hr. 40 min. battle on 50 lb. test on his dad's boat "Pices III".. Other marina based boats reported fantastic action with fluke on the weekend. Anglers on the "Unexpected" returned with a load of bluefish to 13 lbs., sea bass and several blackfish, the largest weighing 12 lbs.

Charter boats based at **Gone Fishing Marina** returned with good catches the past week, according to TJ. On Wednesday, a charter arranged by Fred Ash of Bayside fished Cox's Ledge, returning with 40 codfish on **Fisherman II**. Tuna

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . –0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	11:45	11:55	—	12:30	—	12:35	12:45	1:15	3:00	3:30	2:40	3:05	11:30	11:50	8/13
FRI.	—	12:35	12:50	1:25	12:45	1:20	1:40	2:10	4:00	4:25	3:35	4:00	—	12:25	8/14
SAT.	12:50	1:25	1:40	2:15	1:35	2:10	2:40	3:10	5:00	5:25	4:30	4:55	12:45	1:15	8/15
SUN.	1:40	2:15	2:35	3:15	2:30	3:00	3:40	4:10	6:05	6:30	5:25	5:50	1:40	2:15	8/16
MON.	2:35	3:05	3:35	4:15	3:20	3:55	4:45	5:10	7:10	7:35	6:25	6:50	2:40	3:15	8/17
TUES.	3:35	4:05	4:40	5:15	4:25	4:55	5:50	6:10	8:10	8:35	7:30	7:50	3:40	4:10	8/18
WED.	4:40	5:05	5:40	6:10	5:30	5:55	6:50	7:05	9:10	9:30	8:25	8:45	4:35	5:05	8/19
THURS.	5:40	6:00	6:35	7:00	6:30	6:45	7:40	7:50	10:00	10:15	9:20	9:30	5:30	6:00	8/20

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehobeth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	–0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point, north side	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	–0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rochelle	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	–1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/13	6:05	8:03
FRI. 8/14	6:06	8:02
SAT. 8/15	6:07	8:00
SUN. 8/16	6:08	7:59
MON. 8/17	6:09	7:58
TUE. 8/18	6:10	7:57
WED. 8/19	6:11	7:56

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/13	10:15PM	10:55AM
FRI. 8/14	10:40PM	12:05PM
SAT. 8/15	11:05PM	1:15PM
SUN. 8/16	11:40PM	2:25PM
MON. 8/17	—	3:30PM
TUE. 8/18	12:20AM	4:30PM
WED. 8/19	1:05AM	5:20PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
8/24	9/1	8/9	8/16

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	9:10	**3:00**	9:40	**3:25**
Fri.	10:00	**3:50**	10:30	**4:15**
Sat.	10:55	**4:45**	11:20	**5:05**
Sun.	11:45	**5:35**	—	**6:00**
Mon.	12:15	**6:20**	12:30	**6:45**
Tues.	1:05	**7:10**	1:20	**7:35**
Wed.	1:50	**7:55**	2:05	**8:25**
Thurs.	2:40	**8:45**	2:55	**9:10**

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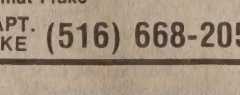

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charters with Charles Servio on Thursday, Bill Fitzpatrick on Saturday and Dr. Joe Delpeto on Sunday did well with yellowfin tuna to 143 lbs.

Captain Bob Storc, of the charter boat **Caprice** fished the North Rips with Tony De Luca and his sons, returning with several dozen fluke to 6 lbs. on Thursday. Saturday's charter with Lou Izzo and his friends located 3 yellowfin to 126 lbs. On Sunday Tony Capra and his friends jigged at Shagwong for 46 blues, top weight 13 lbs.

Gary Harninger travelled from Patchogue, launched his boat at **Gone Fishing Marina** and returned with 25 fluke, biggest 10¾ lbs. Scene of the action was North Rips. TJ reports good bluefishing at Shagwong and the Point. Charlie Tota and Bill Collins caught 6 bass Friday night, the largest 40 lbs., then headed offshore for tuna. They returned with 4 yellowfin to 175 lbs. on the "Nina." Tuna action is reported as the best in year, with all boats participating in heavy action with yellowfins. Many anglers are keeping only what they need, and are releasing tuna in order to preserve the resource.

Captain Paul Forsberg, reporting on Wednesday's **Viking** tuna trip reports fabulous tuna action with very large tuna. On the overnight trip, 22 tuna, weighing from 98 to 165 lbs. were boated. Over 100 were hooked and lost, mostly because of their size. Codfishing on the **Star** remains excellent at Cox's Ledge. Bluefish, while plentiful, are finicky about biting, with catches at night hot and cold. Many doormat fluke have been caught, particularly on the weekend. Andrew Foy of Valley Stream connected with an 11 lber. John Smith of Hoboken with a 10½ lb. fluke. On Sunday a 12½ lbs. fluke took the pool. **Viking** trips for Noman's Land porgies will begin right after Labor Day, a week earlier than scheduled. Call the **Viking** office for details.

Captain Fred Bird estimates the porgy catch on Saturday's trips for 52 persons at over 2,400 porgies, with Sudsy taking high hook honors on the **Flying Cloud** with 95. On Sunday, bigger porgies moved in on the full moon, with many in the large category coming over the rail. A large blackfish took the pool, however. Captain Bird is looking for a second mate. Anyone interested should call him for details.

Charlie Murphy treated his daughter Hallie to a trip on the **Lazy Bones** on the weekend. The 12-year-old beat out her dad with a 4 lb. fluke, and also took the lead in the junior division of Capt. Nappi's Annual Fluke Tournament. Charlie reported fantastic fluke action on the trip, with an 8 lb. doormat taking the pool. Many 5 to 7 lb. fish were brought aboard during his trip.

Henry Uihlein reports loads of fluke, snappers and flounder in local Montauk waters. On Sunday Willie Rider and his family began their week long vacation with a catch of fluke and

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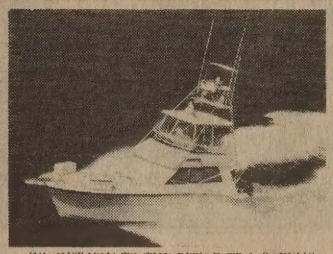

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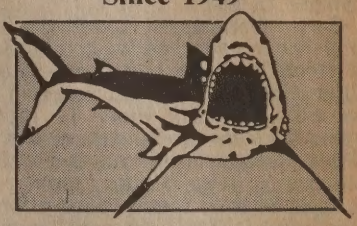
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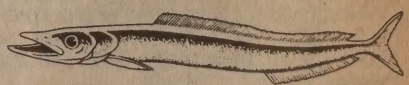

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blues on a boat from **Uihlein's Boat Rentals**. Most boats are fishing north rips or Shagwong for their fluke catches. Blues are located at the Point and Shagwong. Don Olivier and George Veicth caught 4 fluke, then tried for flounder in the lake when the seas kicked up. The pair returned with 15 nice flatties, top weight 1½ lbs.

"Broncho Explorer" tried a trip to the Canyon fishing the Middle Grounds, with Ross Amadola of Huntington. The group returned with four bigeye tuna ranging from 100 to 150 lbs., a small yellowfin and a 62 lb. white marlin.

SOUTH FORK

Although porgy fishing was a bit slower this week, possibly due to the strong moon tides, anglers on the **Wilheric II** averaged 25 to 40 porgies per person. Those using light lines, small hooks and worms as bait faired best.

On a special trip to Montauk for fluke, those who were on last Tuesday's trip felt that they were in fluke heaven. Angler's using proper tackle managed 15 to 20 keepers each. Total catch was estimated at about 200 keepers for 30 persons, with very few shorts. Some anglers had full buckets full of fluke. Pool fish was 8 pounds. On Wednesday's trip with an east wind blowing, found fish biting, but not as many fish were caught since there were about 130 keepers for the same number of persons. Capt. Lach will

fish Montauk waters next week, weather conditions permitting.

Thom Speckenbach has a fine supply of 16 and 25 pound bags of butterfish for both chunking and baiting for tuna hungers. Anglers reporting to **Speck's Bait and Tackle** on the weekend, related spotty action on tuna, in 113 feet of water south and southeast of Shinnecock. Inshore, the picture remains stable with plenty of fluke in Shinnecock Bay, although the percentage of keepers has improved. Loads of snappers are providing hot action at the canal an all piers and bulkheads.

Capt. Ron Woodward of the charter boat **Goshawk** reported a small mako plus a load of bluefish with a charter fro Tom Scuorevo, Ray Card and Vinnie Szela last week. On Sunday, Benny Gold, Casey and Matt Brown found the bluefishing non-stop, catching many for fun, releasing all.

Sherry reporting on the activities of Bill Hichak and his son Billy who, while are vacationing, are fishing daily on their boat berthed at **Sherry and Joe Corr's Best Boatworks** in Southampton. The Hichak's have confined their activities to Heady Creek, where they have averaged about a dozen fluke per day. Capt. Larry and his father George fished on Sunday with John and Steven McKelvian and their friend Jim Ferne on "Capt. Roy's Toy." Their offshore jaunt resulted in the capture of yellowfin tuna weighing 40 and 133 pounds, with a 35 pounder tagged and released. On Sunday, Eric Erker returned to **Mariner's Cove Marina** with 29 nice flounder, several weighing two pouns. Eric fished near buoy 1A at the Ponquogue Bridge with his cousin Sigger Erker and with Peter Beck. Don Law tried the Peconics for fluke, relating that while there were many short size fish, he managed 20 keepers, some of 4 pounds. While those trying a trip to the Canyon reported slim pickings, tuna were located close in. On Saturday, a 101 pound yellowfin tuna was caught on Ed Parbst's "Horizon II." with Brian Burnett on the rod. The fish was located in 140 feet of water south of Shinnecock Inlet, took a butterfish. The same day, Vincent Peritore, his son Frank and Stewart Moy connected with yellowfin of 70 and 120 pounds chunking in the same area on the "High Interest."

Henry Altenkirch of **Altenkirch and Son** said the general fishing picture remains stable, with plenty of blues in the bay and ocean. Loads of snappers are in the canl and sand porgies at the north end of the canal (Peconic Bay side). Decent size fluke have come into the bay, with a better ratio of keepers this past week. While Sunday was a slow day for tuna, there were good catches during the week. Those exploring the Canyon report slow fishing.

Capt. Ben Cammarata did well fishing near-the "tuna fleet" on Saturday with a charter. Anglers on the **Big Ben** landed mako shark weighing 100, 185 and 300 pounds.

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Good fluking was found west of the Ponquogue Bridge on "Two Beer's Away" when John Boscay and his sons located 22 keepers, reporting a one for four keeper ratio. Largest fluke, close to four was caught by Steven. Jimmy Dalano has continued success using trolled umbrella rigs for stripers. Rumors of weakfish caught Saturday night, circulated at **Molnar's Landing.** Several marina based boats lucked out on offshore trips for tuna. Capt. Larry Luce, fishing with Steven Mackelvane and Jim Ferme, returned with three yellowfin to 133½ pounds. The group reported a tow hour fight on a giant tuna. Scene of the action was Montauk. Charles Schuler fished 12 miles from Shinnecok Inlet where it took his teenage son 25 minutes to subdue a 119 pound yellowfin on stand-up tackle. Vince Dovin managed to land a 100 pound mako on tuna tackle.

Unreported last week from **Molnar's Landing** was the catch of three yellowfin caught on the "Peace of Mind" owned by Jim Delano. An all girl crew, headed by Karen Brohm handled all angling chores. A 197 lb. allison tuna was caught on "Geraldine' with Captain Fred and his friend George Barkus. A giant was fought for two hours before the line popped. Bob Scattergood had a mixed bag on the "Scatt 3" with bluefish to 12 lbs., some yellowfin, mako and hammerhead sharks. The sharks were all tagged and released.

Al Flexer reported an increasing amount of keepers from Callahan's Dock, Tiana Bay and Ponquogue Bridge near the Coast Guard Station, catching from 5 to 12 per trip on the weekend on **Al Feather's Jigs.** The dock also is the scene of good flounder catches, with some to 2 lb.s Bill Clark and his son Brian and friend Jason Talizia, both teenagers, managed 15 fluke Friday, 6 on Saturday using killies and snappers, reporting less shorts. Rounding out the picture are small stripers and tailor blues throughout the bay.

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South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

In the bays, the fluke picture has changed little, with plenty of undersized flatties still making up the bulk of the action. Snappers and crabs in very good supply in both bays keeping young and old alike busy. On the offshore scene, yellowfin tuna kept trollers occupied along the 20 fathom curve with some action found inshore of that. The vicinity of the Yankee wreck produced some pretty steady yellowfin action most of the week, as did the NA buoy. White marlin have also been in good supply just a short run from both inlets.

Bluefish continue to provide steady action and are spread over a wide

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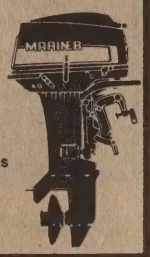

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MORICHES BAY & INLET

Liz Sepulveda said that there was plenty of fluke action this week, but as has been the case all season long, most of the fish are shorts. There was one exceptional catch made by two anglers on Sunday who returned with 22 keepers. Unfortunately, they left without providing any details of their catch. Flounder were again taken this week, but it was just a fair pick compared to last weekend. Some boats managed 15 flatties.

Over at **Silly Lily Fishing Station in East Moriches**, Gary Grunseich spoke of lots of fluke, but lots of shorts. He did see quite a few catches of 10 to 12 keepers per boat this week. Best best for fluke has been between buoys 31 and 33 and the east and west cuts. There was some excellent flounder fishing during the week for those who worked at it. A couple of boats returned with catches of 50 to 75 flounder made between buoys 36 and 38. Work the deep water on incoming tide. On Wednesday, Jeff and Max White landed 85 flatties here and kept 60 most of which were between 1 and 2 lbs. Gary weighed two flatties of 2¾ lbs. this week. The Hole between buoys 42 and 43 has produced a smattering of sea bass and porgies. Crabbing continues to hold up very well as demonstrated by Matt and Jim Viol on Sunday. The pair kept only the biggest kind of blue claws and still went home with 50 crabs.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Dennis Scognamillo at **J&J Tackle in Patchogue** spoke of lots of snappers of mixed sizes at the local docks. He described the crabbing as fantastic for those using traps during the day and jacking at night. There were indications that the ratio of keepers to shorts had improved slightly in recent days in Moriches Bay, but it varied depending on the tide and location. In Moriches Inlet plenty of stripers continue to oblige those looking for bass as well as those not looking for bass.Phyllis Hooker and Rose Sederee fluke fished at the inlet on both Saturday and Sunday and on both days had stripers take killies meant for fluke. They boated two on Saturday including a 28 lber. and two more in the teens on Sunday. Bluefish from 3 to 10 lbs. are just outside the inlet for trollers and jiggers.

Very good snappers and crabs at the docks and in the canals of Great River, according to Dave Canale at **J&R Sports Center in Oakdale**. Fluking still consists primarily of

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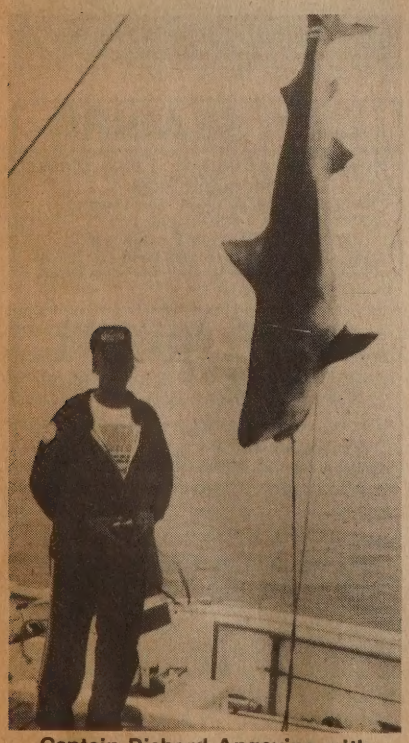

Captain Richard Angevine with the 185 lb. tiger shark he caught 27 miles SE of Shinnecock Inlet on his boat, Dee Cee II. Subscriber photo.

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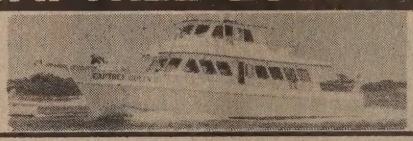

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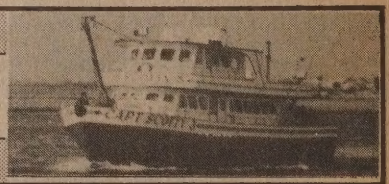

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shorts with most of the action taking place on the last of the incoming and the first of the ebb. Bluefish are in good supply outside the inlet from the Whistle Buoy on out to 60 feet of water. There were some good catches made by trollers in 40 feet of water between the lighthouse and the ocean beach this past week.

Speaking from **Islander Canvas Biat and Tackle in East Islip**, John Albanese reported a catch of 18 blues in the 7 to 8 lb. class for Bill Acquavita and friends on Friday. The fish were jigged at the Whistle Buoy along with a 12 lb. albacore. John knew of some yellowfins trolled in 20 fathoms in the vicinity of the Yankee and east of the NA buoy. He described the fluking as picky with most of the action confined to shorts. Bluefish to 4 lbs. have been taken at the Inlet during early morning tides and sometimes during the evening hours. Good snapper fishing with some 1 lb. class cocktail blues mixed with the snappers in Great River this week. A lot of crabs around but generally smaller than they have been.

Jim Romano at **Peppy's Bait and Tackle in East Islip** reported lots of snappers all over the place and good crabbing too, from local docks. On Wednesday, Billy and JJ used baited lines to take 6 dozen blue claws in Great River. Fluking continues to be spelled s-h-o-r-t-s. A few guys have been working with live snappers looking for bigger fluke but without too much success as there just doesn't seem to be many bigger fish around. Blues have been in good supply at the

inlet and out to the Whistle buoy during the early morning hours for trollers and jiggers. Henny Jentz trekked up to Rhode Island to catch his fish of a lifetime last Saturday. Henny managed a 661 lb. giant tuna during his junket.

From **Smokey's Tackle in Bay Shore**, Carl Miller said the best bet for a keeper fluke is the stretch between the lighthouse and the Robert Moses bridge. Also, a few larger fish being caught outside the inlet near the pound nets. Bluefish have been at the bell buoy during the early morning where they are being trolled on umbrellas and diamond jigs. One customer returned to the shop with a Spanish mackerel taken on an umbrella rig at the inlet. Another boatman returned with a box full of big blues to 14 lbs. chummed in 80 feet of water south of the inlet. Yellowfin tuna in the 40 to 50 lb. class trolled on plastics southeast of the Yankee on several occasions this week and a lot of white marlin reported between the Yankee and the Linda. Some makos still being reported from 130 feet of water but the canyon remains quiet. A few summer weaks from 1½ to 3 lbs. showing up at Ocean Beach and Heckscher. Crabbing is excellent and snappers continue to be very plentiful.

Captain Neil Delanoy of the Bay Shore open boat **Laura Lee** said that fluke action this week consisted of plenty of shorts with a few keepers mixed in. Most of the action taking place on the last of the incoming and the first of the outgoing tide. Joanne Pereira had 7 keepers on Sunday's trip. Fishing is being done from West Island to the Coast Guard station and a few sea bass, blowfish and bluefish have been mixed in on some of the trips.

From **Captree Bait and Tackle**, Bobby Sprenger put a 6.8 lb. fluke on the scale on Saturday. It was taken by Bill Haverstroh aboard the **Captain Joseph II** on Saturday. On Sunday, Valerie Staltare checked in with a 7.6 lb. blackfish taken on the Anna M. Same day, Henry Hernandez weighed a 3.4 lb. sea bass that he decked aboard the **Speedy VIII**. The bait station is now equipped to weigh fish up to 600 lbs. The new scale was christened on Saturday with a 482 lb. dusky taken by Bruce Harrington aboard Nick Buglione's Shotgun II. It was caught SE of the Coimbra. Lots of snappers now being taken from Fishermens Walk out in front of the station, along with a few short fluke.

Captain Carl Paserro of the open boat **Miss Captree** has announced a couple of trips geared to finding bigger fluke. On Monday and Tuesdays, beginning 8-17, the boat will sail 8AM - full day for ocean fluke. It will continue half day trips in the day on Wednesday through Sunday at 8AM and 1PM. The boat also sails bluefish trips nightly from 6 to 10PM, with most of the fishing done at or a short ride from the inlet. Concerning the weekend's fishing, Carl reported

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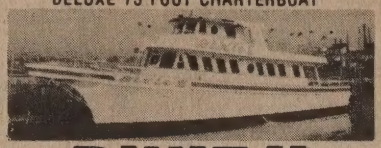

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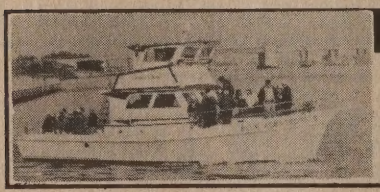

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30 to 40 keeper fluke on both Friday and Sunday's afternoon trips. Some of the fishing was done in the same areas that he will concentrate on for doormats. Fish to 4 and 5 lbs. were taken in the area. Friday and Saturday nights produced good bluefish action. On Friday, the boat had to go no further than the inlet and whistle buoy while Saturday required just a short ride to find a bunch of 4 to 10 lb. choppers.

Captain George Tweedy of the **Captree** open boat **Captain Scotty III** spoke of loads of shorts with some trips producing more keepers than others. He figured the average at 15 to 20 keepers per trip. Night bluefishing continues to be very good with Saturday night the only exception. Most of these fish have ranged from 4 to 16 lbs. with fishing being done south of the inlet and east to Patchogue. Most of this week's fishing was done just a short ride from the inlet.

Captain Charlie Kennedy of the Captree open boat **Captain Joseph II** spoke of good fluking on the last half of the incoming and the first half of the ebb, with 20 to 50 keepers being taken when tides are right. He noted Bill Habestroh's 6½ lb. fluke taken Saturday afternoon. Night bluefishing has been holding up very well with an off night now and then but the slow nights remain few and far between. Some of the fishing is being done off Patchogue but several nights this week saw good catches made close by between the whistle buoy and the Fire Island ocean reef.

Over at **Augie's Tackle Shop in Babylon** John Gattuso reported a catch of 20 blues to 14 lbs. made by the Water Witch on Sunday. The fish were trolled on umbrella rigs in 65 feet of water south of gilgo. The Babylon Tuna Club held their club tuna contest this weekend. The top spot was nailed down by Keith Nowinski with a 47.8 lb. yellowfin on the Miss Ellie. Fred Corbett put a 43 lb. yellowfin into the cockpit of the Miss Ellie to nail down second spot. Bill Kwaak whipped a 35.3 lb. yellowfin aboard the Baron to take third place.

According to John Raguso who I spoke to briefly, there was some good yellowfin tuna action during the week on the 550/550 line with the fish showing a pattern of working from the Yankee, towards the NA and then to the Linda as the morning and day progresses.

Captain Ralph Green of the open boat **Miss Babylon** called the fluking fair with a large number of shorts and just an occasional large fish in the 3 to 5 lb. class.

George Stevenson at **Babylon Fishing Station** reported a 300 lb. hammerhead aboard the Captain Hook for John Happ. It was taken ner the NA buoy. On Sunday, Mike, Rob, Frank and Chuck treated bachelor Jim Golden to a fishing bachelor party. Jim managed to deck a 38 lb. yellowfin despite being a little short on sleep. On Saturday, Bruce Browner clicked with a 95 lb. mako aboard the

Tork I. George noted that most of the week saw some fairly steady tuna action around the Yankee, while the Linda proved to be a better bet for sharkers. Good bluefishing this week, in 60 feet of water between the lighthouse and ocean beach with many of the fish being caught by trollers. Andy Stone and his wife on the super B, trolled up a boxful 3 miles out on Saturday. Some great catches of crabs being made at the Captree Bridge and on the flats. Snapper fishing remains real good on the local docks.

Over at **Frank and Dick's Bait Station** near the Babylon Cut, Dick Schmitt reported a catch of 19 yellowfins trolled near the HA buoy on Saturday by Jack Spezio and his crew on 3Js. Dick noted that quite a few yellowfin were caught by trollers working with green machines between the Yankee and the Linda. Pete Selfo worked an area 5 miles SW of the San Diego and put 3 yellowfins to 85 lbs. into the box of his Open Wide. Several customers reported taking a couple of fish via chunking so it looks as if this action is going to be in full swing shortly. Also, lots of marlin close by this week with Russ Westerling accounting for a pair of whites less than 10 miles from the beach on Tuesday. Russ skippers the private boat 3 Hearts.

From **Charlie's Bait and Tackle in Lindenhurst**, Penny Schaefer heard of some fair sharking near the Virginia and a fair number of yellowfin tuna trolled between the Virginia and the Yankee, on feathers, green machines and daisy chains. Kevin Schuessler and Gary Martin used a red feather to troll a 75 lb. yellowfin in 120 feet of water on Saturday. Plenty of big blues camped south of Cherry Grove with smaller blues at the inlet. Cocktail blues from 3/4 to 1½ lbs. roaming the bay. Some big bass falling to live eels and bunker at the Wantagh and Meadowbrook Bridges. Still mostly short fluke making up the fluke action and some decent flounder being picked at the Sore Thumb. Crabbing and snapper fishing at local docks has been very good. On Saturday, Tony Mangiaracier managed a half bushel of crabs at the Babylon Village Dock. Same day David Talone had 20 snappers from the Babylon dock.

Across the street at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** Mike Andreani reported yellowfins of 47 and 75 lbs. taken aboard Double Trouble on Wednesday. Dan Norbut, Skip Meinhold and Steve Bly took the tuna on butterfish baits intended for bluefish while chumming in 90 feet of water SE of the inlet. They also had a mess of blues. On Sunday, the Costa family accounted for 8 keeper fluke to 4 lbs. at the Coast Guard Station. They used killie-spearing and squid combos. Bluefishing remains steady from the lighthouse to Patchogue in 40 to 60 feet of water. Snappers and crabs remain very good at all of the local docks.

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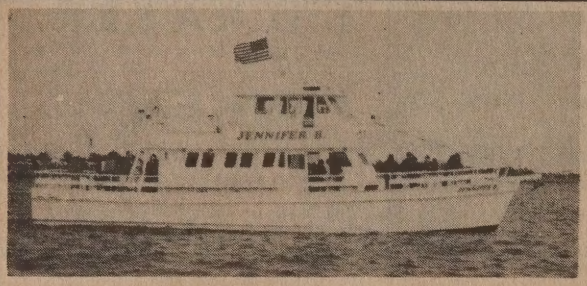

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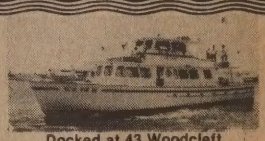

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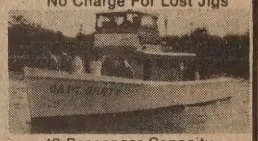

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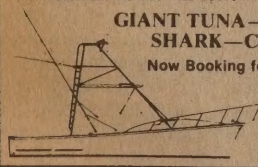

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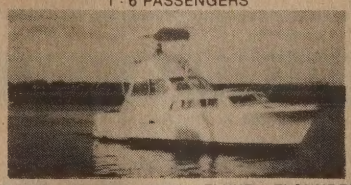

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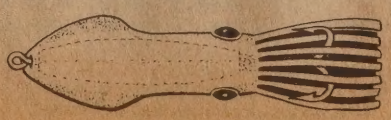
Amity Harbor Bob Vitale told of a 100 lb. mako for Jimmy Claud on the Nansea on Saturday. It was caught in 125 feet of water. The same day, the J.C. Hooker trolled green machines in the vicinity of the Yankee and put away a pair of 50 lb. yellowfins. The Lady Marion spent both Saturday and Sunday trolling the inshore tuna grounds. They totalled 6 yellowfin in the 50 to 60 lb. range over both days. Best fluking is near the inlet, though most of its consists of shorts. Flounder still available at the Shore Sore Thumb and the Wantagh bridges. Bob called the snapper fishing and crabbing pretty good at all local docks.

Frank Pristera of **Edelman's Sporting Goods in Farmingdale** said he found fluke fishing pretty poor this weekend. He worked the Fire Island inlet area. He knew of quite a few yellowfin tuna being trolled from the NA buoy west and from 8 to 15 miles off the beach. Daisy chain squids and tuna birds accounting for some of the fish. On Sunday, the J.C. Hooker again connected with the yellowfins. They put away 4 fish to 55 lbs. near the Yankee.



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West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

Bluefishing again dominates this week's scene with the strong action continuing right through this month's moon. The fluke picture remains picky on the keepers but still with tons of shorties. Some flounder off Short Beach Coast Guard. Several weakfish reports finally filtering in, practically all on live bunker at the two main bridges. Snappers galore and blue claws being taken here and there. Some YFT offshore along with white marlin and some shark activity, mostly makos.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

We hear from **Wanser's Tackle in Seaford** about the very good snapper action for the kids on spearing and small tins. Fluke keepers were "okay." Lon weighed in a 7 lb. fluke caught at the 3rd Wantagh area on killies and squid. The Massapequa shoreline has been another good area for some keepers. Blue claws are starting to be taken by customers in traps and we also hear of some small sea bass and porgies scattered around the bay, particularly in rocky areas and at the bridges.

From **Causeway Tackle in Wantagh**, Mike says the fluking has been about the same with plenty of shorts, but an increased number of large keepers. The inlet area has been best all around the high on spearing and long strip baits. A 5¼ lb. fluke was caught by Gene Laurenzano on his boat Tiger II. Mike Damberger bagged a 9 lb. 11 oz. fluke. It was a 4 lb. fluke taken off the Jones Beach piers for Scott Gillen. Also a few keepers in the state channel in the flats behind Gilgo and Tobay. Snappers at Wantagh Park, excellent at high water, also at Seaman's Neck Park on shiners and small tins. Some flounder at the CG station on red clam and bloodworms at high slack. Lots of small sand porgies and pin bass mixed in. It was a 10 lb. 8 oz. weak Saturday at the 3rd Wantagh for Irv Mittelmark, on live bunker. A few other weakfish reported, also on bunker, said Mike. Big bluefish at the bridges, outgoing water on live snapper or bunker.

From **Merrick Tackle in Bellmore**, we hear of more weakfish on live snapper but at Big M. Short stripers on popping plugs in the back of Merrick Bay. Plenty of fluke action and even some keepers at Black

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Captain Frank Silvestro and mate Tom Hallock of the charter boat, "Sorceress',, show bass of 18 and 22 lbs. caught off Atlantic Beach on live bunker. Five other bass up into the 40 pound class were released by the pair. Photo courtesy of Oceanside Bay Marina in Oceanside.

Banks and around the second Wantagh.

We learn from Randy at **Garan's Tackle in Merrick** of the super snapper action all over the place on spearing and small tins. Plenty of fluke activity with enough keepers to make it interesting. Best fluking keeper wise has been off Riis Park and local inshore wrecks. Bluefish are being trolled just off the beaches from 20 feet on out on umbrellas and on single tubes.

Out of **Freeport**, Captain Richie Kessinger's **Star Stream II** says that this past week has been a little more erratic than the previous week, but catches are still very good with fish running anywhere from 1 to 10 lbs. There have been good catches every trip day and night, with Friday being super. Fishing was even relatively strong right through the full moon. Saturday night saw excellent catches of choppers come over the rail, with action from Jones Tower to Seabright. Most of the action has been two miles west of 17 Fathoms just 1 hr. and 15 minutes from the dock. A couple of bonito have been mixed in during the week and Richie has heard of some weakfish being mixed in along with bluefish catches.

A call from Captain Tony of the **Miss Freeport II** told of the very good to excellent bluefishing on his night trips, fish 8 to 10 lbers., up to 25 a man. The day fluking trips continue to show lots of action with some keepers mixed in, all local, inside.

The **Bluefin Fleet** has had continued excellent bluefishing, fish going to 12 lbs. with a few weaks mixed in, both days and nights. Catching blues 10 to 12 lbs. this week were Scott Moore, Bob Goetz, Rich Yanch, Fikret Cokyuksel, John Wolf,

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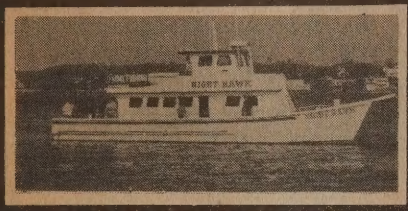

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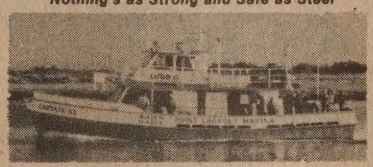

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Chris Hampson, Frank McCarthu, Cathy Bruno, and Kevin Ryan. High hooks of the week with anywhere from 15 to 25 blues were: Jack Conroy, Nick Dell, Henry Scoufield, Howie Nazinsky, Tom Beretta, Ralph Ijos and Russ O'Neill. Tom Larson bagged a 9 lb. weak and a 6 lb. fluke rewarded the efforts of Sid Sidor. This was taken on live killies fishing along the beach, where good numbers of keeper fluke were taken.

We learned from Captain Dennis of the charter boat **Corsair** of Friday's trip for Matt Beriloff, J.J. Kenny Co., NYC, had excellent bluefish jigging off Jones Tower and at Patchogue, with fish in the 5 to 6 lb. class. Saturday's trip for Knight Elevator also jigged blues, bagging up on 5 to 7 lbers. off Shrewsbury. Sunday's trip for Skyline Partition Systems, NJ worked from buoy 4 to Riis, having excellent catches of 5 to 11 lb. blues on jigs, along with a super bonus of 10 weakfish to 10 lbs.

Over at **Lou's Fishing Station** at the mouth of Woodcleft Canal, we hear of 3 YFT caught on the boat No Problem trolling between the Yankee and Virginia Wrecks. It was 230 mako for Eddy Napole of Eastern Anglers at the HA. A fair number of keeper fluke from around the pipeline off Babylon. Bluefish catches, while not great this week, have been good for private boats doing their bluefish act.

We learn from the **Lady J Fleet** tha this week's bluefish trips have been good but not as action packed as the week previous. Pat says there is no set pattern to the fishes whereabouts, sometimes finding them to the south-east, due south or southwest. The best fluke trips of the week have been in the ocean off Riis Park and around inshore wrecks. Trips were sailed this past week for: Adco group, Oceanside Communities, Nippon Air Cargo, Norman Craft, Olympic Plumbing, Ed Kondek group, Roy Franklin group, Solar Shipping, David Kline party, Finger Metrix, Jake Paserman group, Don Eisenbraum party, Jeanette Brandofino, Joe Marino party, Jay Henley group, Sportsmen's 25 club, Marty Marrione party and Tap-A-Keg

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A call from Captain Mike Barnett of the charter boat **Cod Father** tells of Friday's trip for the two person Nick Ruppino charter taking 37 keeper fluke going to 5 lbs. Saturday's trip for the Sam Rutkosky charter had 15 keeper fluke ranging from 1 to 5 lbs. along with two blues, one a 12 lber. All fishing was done in the ocean.

Bob at the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** advises that the bluefishing remained good this week both day and night with this week having some weakfish mixed in. Best action was between Debs and buoy 4. Lots of fluke action continuing with the keepers being larger this week. Offshore action was classified as good with lots of white marlin and shark being caught and YFT getting closer, at the HA and moving up. Blues were jigged, trolled and baited right through the moon on the weekend. The offshore wrecks are holding blues and big sea bass. Bob noted there doesn't seem to be any lull in the summer's fishing.

Over in **Pt. Lookout** the **Captain Al** reported that the beginning of the week saw super bluefishing close in. It then started to get a little spotty, also coping with a lot of boat traffic. The bluefish action was magnificent at 17 Fathoms Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, just great, said the skipper. Friday's fishing to the east was picky. Saturday was excellent fishing to the west off Seabright and action Sunday afternoon was red hot. All fish were taken on diamonds and fish were mixed. Friday's night trip was good and Saturday night's was super. There's no shortage of fish, said Al.

Captain Ron of the **Miss Point Lookout** which is bluefishing 7 nights a week called the blue action just great, a banner week. Friday night Bob Valcaffiero bagged 77 blues and his buddy Tom had 52, while Diane McCaffrey had to settle for 40. Customers even left a huge load of fish on the boat when it was all over. Saturday night again high hooks were in the 50s. The fluke trips during the day are showing a few more keepers now said Ron with early fish getting larger and others coming off the flats. Big Bob Manning had 3 keeper fluke including a 3 lb. pool winner. Fred Weitzen had a 3 lb. pool winner, his third in 5 weeks. Saturday AM 24 fares had roughly 50 keepers, high hook 6 fish. In the PM, Artie Jenowitz had a 3¾ lb. pool fluke. Sunday saw John McKenna with a 4 lb. pool fluke. The boat is mainly fishing inside, but is hitting inshore wrecks when conditions permit.

From the charter boat **Marie III** comes word that Monday's night blue trip for 20 people scored with over 500 blues fishing SE of Jones off Gilgo. Nearly the same scenery occurred Thursday night. Wednesday's trip for Joe Piston had 10 to 25 blues a man working west of the BA. Saturday's trip for Maspeth Anglers saw very good blue action off Seabright with

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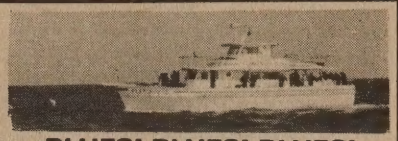
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high hook Andy Olmstead with 27 blues. Bill "Wink" Harold and Scott Carter totaled 56 blues 2 to 10 lbs. Sunday's fluke trip worked the back of Oceanside, East Rockaway and Island Park with 75 keepers out of roughly 300 total fluke caught. Best was on the ebb in 4 to 6 foot depths.

Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station** described the fluking as improved in the flats this week. Peter Conklin and girl friend had three fluke over 3 lbs. on live killies in the Loop bridge area. Floundering was very good said Eileen in Swift Creek, the holes off the CG Station and at Big M. Mixed porgies, sea bass and lots of snappers off the west marina piers.

Aboard the **Night Hawk** excellent fluking was had all week with the AMs best. High hook Wednesday was Fred and Peggy Nicotera with 11 keepers. Bruce Rupp had 8 keepers. Thursday AM high hook was Rich Krvanonski with 8 keepers. Sam Morton was happy with 7 keepers. Friday Bob SMitchell had a 3 lb. fluke and 7 other keepers. James Winwood had 4 and Steve Fuller 7. Saturday's charter working Seabright had an excellent catch of 2 to 6 lb. blues. Captain Dennis noted the fluke keeper ratio ranged from fair to very good, going as high as 80 percent.

We hear from the charter boat **Freedom** sailing out of Point Lookout that Thursday's fluke trip for Dr. Bob Soloway, Milton, Bud, Sol and Larry totaled 11 keepers out of roughly 50 total fluke caught. This was on outgoing at Great Island Channel using killies and spearing.

From **Beckmann's in Lynbrook** we hear more of the good bluefishing around. Plenty of fluke action with lots of shorts and some keepers in Reynolds. An abundance of snappers now, bigger and growing more so.

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Tons of crabs off the JB Piers with a few BCCs mixed in.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Over at **Skippy's Tackle in East Rockaway** the tale of loads of blues all over the place is heard again. A few fluke off Riis Park to 5 lbs. with just a few weakfish mixed in with the blues. A 50 lb. YFT taken at Angler Bank with a lot of hook-ups reported. Loads of snappers in Bay Park and behind the store. A few flounder at Short Beach Coast Guard. Good BCCs in Hewlett harbor and some big blues and small stripers in the back creeks, early AM hours.

A call from the charter boat **Thermocline in Howard Beach** tells of over 200 good eating 1 to 2 lb. bluefish caught on Saturday's charter for Bob Schmidt and pals at Ambrose on A27s. Sunday's dive party told of plenty of blacks and sea bass on inshore wrecks off Breezy Point such as the Black Warriorm, Mistletoe (east wreck) and the derrick barge.

Artie at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** says his area, Jamaica Bay, is holding plenty of small blues hitting A27s with tubes, fish in the 4 to 5 lb. range with larger blues on chunked or whole bunker. This is off both bridges. He weighed in a 13 lb. 8 oz. blue for Bob Nelson fishing near the Marine Parkway bridge. He classified the fluking as "okay" on killies, spearing and squid, 50 percent keeper ratio with outgoing tide best. Artie weighed in a 4¾ lb. fluke taken on killie-squid combo for Ed Morin. Lots of small porgies on bloods and sands, any moving tide and lots of 6 to 8 inch snappers on spearing or small tins. Some BCCs being taken.

To the west in **Sheepshead Bay** the **Betty W IV** has had very good to super bluefishing all week long with the exception of Thursday and part of Sunday. Fish have been running from 1 to 16 lbs. from the Tin Can to Seabright. Night trips have been excellent with bigger fish also.

Captain Butch of the **Zephyr V** proudly announces the arrival of his brand new 75 foot all aluminum boat. Just up from the builder this past week, Butch says she handles like a dream and has already tasted blood. The daily fluke trips have had good results on mixed fish up to 5 lbs. working the edges of Ambrose, old Orchard and West Bank lighthouse areas. Action has been fair to good depending on anglers' skills. Please note that the Zephyr V is now bluefishing every night. Friday and Saturday nights there were very good catches of 5 to 8 lb. blues at 17 and Ambrose. This is just a short ride from the dock said Butch and since his trips are full night trips you can really bag up.

A call from the **Pastime II** told of good to excellent fluking, with some days better than others. With conditions right, they bite said the skipper. Strip baits, spearing and sand eels have all been doing it at the Can. On Saturday Andy Word of Texas nailed a 7 lb. fluke while Mike McCarthy for the third consecutive week took the pool on Sunday AM trip with a 6½ lber. Mike's other two pool winners were also 6 lbers. Way to go, Mike.

The Wee Willie report from **Mike's Tackle**, right across from the fleet told of fair to good blues on diamonds and on bait. Fluking slowed down some from last week but was still very respectable. Aboard the **Captain George** a 10 lb. 6 oz. fluke went into the cooler of Mike Ficzko. Joe Ganga bagged a 7 lb. 14 oz. fluke. Porgies have been slow as have blacks, but there is some decent sea bass and ling action off the Jersey rocky bottom. Good bluefishing at the Tin Can on butters and lots of snappers in the bay.

North Shore REPORT
with Marty Garrell

Bluefishing looked good on all fronts and porgies obliged as well. Fluke rounded out the picture in Mid-Island and East End target zones. The good fishing probably had a lot to do with favorable weatehr that allowed boaters to fish most Sound areas in comfort for much of the weekend.

WESTERN SOUND

Jack's Bait on **City Island** felt that the action on large bluefish was even better than last year. Slammers were the targets of chunkers around Robin's Neck and Eastchester Bay. Jack Rumpf also explained that scup were thick off the CBS tower and New Rochelle.

John Cacciola at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** said that there were plen-

ty of blues to twelve pounds back in the area; the choppers were following bunker schools and were taken while wire line trolling. Most of the inshore fishing seems unaffected by the low oxygen levels that occured ten days ago, according to Cacciola.

Pete Pearson of the **Klondike VIII** spoke of excellent bluefish action which he enjoyed from Rye to Bridgeport on Friday. Fish are three to six pounds on most days with a few choppers to twelve. Saturday's fishing off Eaton's and Bayville was best described as "scratch and catch," but Sunday picked up once more in the Eaton's Neck area.

Dom Cerbone of the **Apache** from **City Island** told us that porgy action was "a slaughter on Saturday" with a number of pails holding 25 to 40 scup. Sunday turned picky with a high hook of only about 25 scup and sharpies managing an average of fifteen or so. Fishing was off Green's Ledge and Stamford on Saturday and around Old Greenwich on Sunday.

According to recent reports, the **Reliable** from **Flushing Bay** has now completely shifted off mixed bags and is working on fluke with some decent catches to the west and outside the Sound.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Jerry Cedar from **Huntington Prop** had a number of names in reports from the shop. Messrs. Atkins, Black and White had the best catch of scup last week when they took over one hundred porgies to 1½ pounds east of buoy 13 on Saturday. Herb Johnson had bluefish to sixteen pounds early Thursday morning in Cold Spring Harbor. Rich Lipman and a buddy had

Greg Moncaleri and Herb Hahn used live bunker to take these bass of 23 and 29 lbs. in Long Island Sound. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Bait and Tackle in Huntington.

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PORT JEFF ACE

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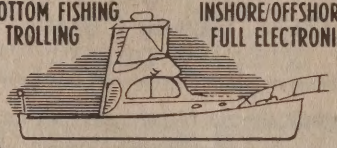
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their choppers in the a.m. hours Friday in Huntington Harbor with their best blue around fifteen pounds on chunks. Elly Macomb took some large blues off buoy 11B while wire-lining, and Bob Cedar and Joe DiMaggio had a grand morning releasing bass off the rocks around the Neck while worm trolling on Saturday.

Greenlawn Sport Shop said that Robert and Chris Daniel hauled blues to twelve pounds from Huntington Harbor and that there were some large fluke taken among the keepers off Eaton's. Best size was around seven pounds. Ilenme Fleischmann also mentioned snappers and white perch in the pond area.

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** in **Northport** spoke of some nice fluke to five pounds or so scattered among the shorts off the Crescent Club in the old channel off Huntington. Target Rock was a good bet for scup.

Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's** in **Mount Sinai** painted a typical summer picture of fluke off the Pink House and scup off Miller Place and Rocky Point. There were many tailor sized blues in the area, but the best action came Sunday on some large fish to eleven pounds in frount of the station. Fluke sized were dominated by shorts, keepers running around fifteen percent of the typical catch, and most of the scup were hand-sized.

George Valentine at **Four Winds** suggested trying the area from Sand City to buoy 6 for some nice fluke over three pounds. He called the bluefishing in the Triangle area "red hot" and detailed two wonderful days for small crowds on Artie Tulbertini's **Ever Ready II.** The newly outfitted Huntington party boat gets on the grounds early for a shot at two to six pound tailors and choppers with three hundred fish-days possible!

Captain Fred reported fine catches of bass (all released) and so many bluefish per trip that anglers released them after catching their first 100 on charters on the **Hawkeye** last week. Charter groups included Patty and Paul Pensabere with their daughters Nicole and Angela and 6 year old nephew; Jim, Donna and Michael Ennesser with Randy, Cammille and Michael Nathanson; a group from Suffolk County Water Authority. A huge blackfish, caught while fishing with the family, hit the 11 pound mark on the scale at **Ralph's Fishing Station.**

Sharon Cash told us that the porgy fishing for summer sizes on the Port Jeff Ace was quite "decent" with buckets of fish, most of which are over 3/4 pound. The night boat is showing some consistency with the bluefishing, too, with the bodies of choppers showing at Crane's and off the Middle Grounds.

Charter boat reports were excellent last week. John Pellegrino on the **Noli-Eilene** had several fine bluefish outings. Scott Werkstell and Frank Millan had multiple hookups, and Frank Erikson's group broke out light spinning gear for fish up on top. The Schnurr family, Leslie, Wendy and

Jessie took their first fluke despite rough seas Thursday. Anthony Taverna's **Morning Star** put a party from the Emporer of Hunan restaurant into a pile of porgies on Wednesday. The grop tally went well over 150 scup and added a dozen flounder. John Alberda's **Sound Charters** used jigs for most of the week on blues and bass. The Walmsley's had about five dozen choppers and the Tobins managed a sixteen pounder plus some near-keeper bass. The Olsen's had a mix of blues and bass, too. On Sunday, The Keelers, Harry Swenson and Tony Usobiagi had blues to fourteen pounds and five bass, one of which was a bare keeper at fifteen pounds. That was a chunking trip.

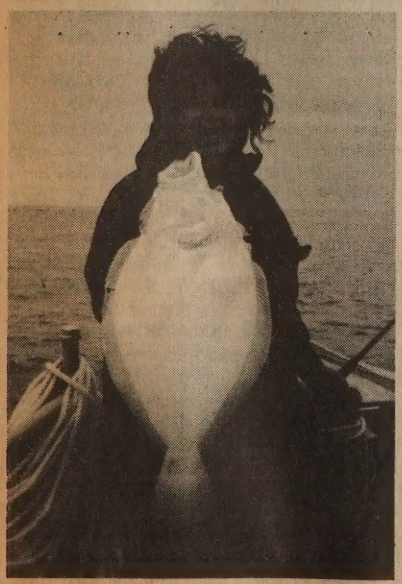
NORTH FORK

At **Warren's Tackle Center,** Ed Kopack hinted that there was only one burst of bluefish action along the Sound late in the week. That occured on small fish off Reeves.

Phil Loria at **Captain Marty's** in **New Suffolk** watched eight boats produce pails of porgies off buoy 28 and was quite pleased over the weekend. There were also six weakfish in summer sizes tallied from the South Race on Sunday.

The **Mattituck Fishing Station** reported up and down porgy fishing. Friday's scup were generally mixed sizes but Sunday's catch involved true pins and sands. Bluefishing was nearly dead and fluking unheard of.

Ace Cottral from **Pleasures of the Sea** mentioned a couple of nice scup catches by marina boats working just east of Petty's Bight and by Ed Czelatka's "Sea Boots" off Constellation Rock. Cottral explained that Richie Jensen on the **Nancy Ann** had night charters with four and nine keeper bass on the August full moon. Jensen's best fish of the week was a fifty pounder.



Rosemary Fedorco was overwhelmed by this 10.8 lb. fluke she caught back in June aboard the Mattituck based, "Captain Bob."

Bluefish action in the Gut and Pigeon Rip was "wall to wall" on several days. Pete Izzo's **Boanne II** found nonstop action at the start of the ebb with no letup for the parties. Fish sizes were in the four to twelve pound class. Izzo may try a bit of fluke fishing at mid-week too.

Ruth White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** told us that Larry Porter's **Brand X** had a couple of busloads of happy scup specialists from Philadelphia aboard over the weekend. Larry called to say that he found some large fish deep off New London with mediums inside sixty foot depths. Both Porter and Barbara Brennan were excited about the August porgy action. The new **Peconic Star II** enjoyed the best shots on the Connecticut side before the tide began to rip, and Barbara figured that this mixed size action would continue all month.

Larry Ciccotto on the **Prime Time III** had a good week of fluking off Orient with five to fifteen summer flounder per fare. Ciccotto's mother had five keepers on Tuesday. Sizes run from shorts up to around 3½ pounds, but there are now enough keepers to go around!

John Rainis on the **Sea Star** had similar results. Friday's crowd had the best catch of the week with ten keepers per fare. Fishing depths range anywhere from the beach out to fifty feet of water for this good body of fluke.

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Surf REPORT *with Fred Golofaro*

Surf reports remain sparse this week, which is not to be unexpected for August. It's difficult to get a handle on the full picture as angler effort is considerably diminished this time of year. Many surfmen choose to bide their time with September, October and November just around the corner. Despite the lack of effort, there continues to be no lack of school bass near south shore inlets, with good action reported at Fire Island and Shinnecock this week. Some big blues also made news with bait fishermen taking choppers into the teens at Cedar Beach on night tides.

Out at **Johnny's Tackle Shop in Montauk**, Johnny Kronuch spoke of some 3 to 5 lb. blues scattered along the sand beaches from Hither Hills to behind town. "No blitzes and no real pattern to the fishing." A good possibility that all the shark activity along east end beaches due to a beached whale may also have scattered the blues in this area. John added that a couple of bigger blues to 10 lbs. were picked near the lighthouse and Turtle Cove this week. A very impressive 14 lb. weakfish was taken by a Don Laridia at Shagwong on Friday night. The big tiderunner checked in at 14 lbs., but was the only weak John knew of taken at the Point on the

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Patchogue Fishing Club member, Peter Cilento beached this huge 51 lb. striper inside Shinnecock Inlet back in July. The big cow swallowed a whole bunker drifted from the beach. It was officially weighed at J&J Tackle in Patchogue.

weekend. A couple of small bass fell to plugs at Shagwong on Saturday night.

The east side of Shinnecock Inlet provided some good school bass action on several occasions this past week. Some very reliable sources told me that Tuesday night was a good one, with one caster taking 10 husky schoolies in the 8 to 9 lb. range. Sunday morning saw a good flurry of schoolie action, with fish from 5 to 8 lbs. taken during the early morning hours along the sand beach.

Diana Healy weighed a 13 lb. blue taken at Cedar Beach on Saturday. The fish was checked in at **Augie's Tackle in Babylon.**

From **Charlie's Tackle in Lindenhurst**, came word of an 18 lb. striper

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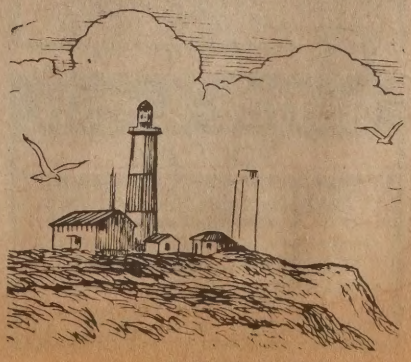
taken by Chris Anderson on Friday night. The bass fell for a sand worm at Democrat Point. There was some decent school bass action at Democrat early last week. Ron Frank of Surf Scout Charters reported that he and a friend, Phil Koenig found 1 to 2 lb. cocktail blues at the Point in the early afternoon on Monday. At dark, the pair switched to white darters to take 7 school bass from 6 to 9 lbs.

Tom Healy at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** checked in a 35 lb. striper taken on a live snapper by Scott Lawrence on the weekend. LISA Club members Mark Malinowski and Keith Mabanta used chunk bait to take 6 blues to 14 lbs. on the Cedar Bar Thursday night. Tom added that there have been plenty of school bass being reported from the back side of the inlet and at Democrat.

Working our way west, Charlie Beckmann at **Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook** reported two 20 lb. class stripers for Ed Parker of Howard Beach on Wednesday. Both were taken on chunk bait from the Silver Point jetty.

On the north shore, Tom Bowman at **Bowman's Sporting Goods in Northport** reported a flurry of action with bluefish to 8 lbs. along area beaches. Several casters reported connecting with the choppers.

Over at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle in Huntington** George Valentine reminded that big blues have been providing fairly consistent action inside the harbor since last Thursday. The fish, which ranged from 10 to 15 lbs. have been taking big metal lipped swimmers. Most of the activity seems to occur around the change of tide and is taking place at the town dock and from various shore spots surrounding the harbor.



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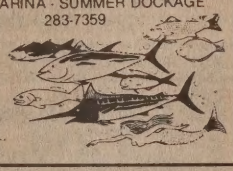

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Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

Although freshwater fishing in local waters should be described as slow, activity with bass and trout has picked up a little over the last week. In fact, a few bass were even taken on surface plugs despite the warm water temperatures in most lakes and ponds. As usual, early morning, evening and late night catches all hold a decided edge over daytime scores.

According to Bill Beckmann of **Beckmann's Bait and Tackle, Lynbrook**, bass fishing is still "off" at most locations. Grant Park is the notable exception, offering consistent action with small bass. Worms and small lures are doing the trick. Over at the Tanglewood Preserve, Joe Oddo has been picking away at carp. This week he used bread baits to nail fish of 6.25 and 4.5 lbs.

The word from Bobby Turturello at **Causeway Bait and Tackle, Lynbrook** is that bass fishing on North Twin Lake has witnessed some improvement. Best action, though, remains after dark with killies producing the most fish. Most other lakes near the shop have been quiet of late.

At **Augie's Bait and Tackle, Babylon**, Keith Busch reports that he and pal Benny McGee worked "the Carp Pond" in Babylon this week taking two carp in the 8 lb. class and a mess of sunnies and yellow perch. Bass fishing is still pretty slow.

At **Pine Grove Outfitters in Ronkonkoma**, Richie reports that those Lake Ronkonkoma largemouths are showing signs of life. Several anglers connected wtih 3 and 4 lb. bass this week and Richie himself had a few fish while working the "new structure" that the DEC and Long Island Bassmasters placed in the lake last spring. While the big lake is beginning to shake off the effects of the recent hot weather, fishing in most small, local ponds still leaves a lot to be desired.

Over at Caleb Smith State Park on the Nissequogue River, Mike Venuti reports some good innings with trout in recent days. Last week saw a Mr. Hofferger nail a 26 inch, 5.5 lb. brownie at beat #14, while beat #5 produced a 20 inch brown. In the pond, one angler clicked with an 18 inch rainbow trout on Sunday. The fish are feeding on a variety of nymphs, streamers and dries.

Bass fishing has improved over the last week in the Patchogue area according to Paul Graniello of **J&J Bait and tackle, Patchogue.** Quite a few fish were caught and released in both Cannon and Patchogue Lakes. Surprsingly, many of the fish knocked

top water plugs with Jitterbugs, Crazy Crawlers and Tiny Torpedoes leading the way. In addition to the bass, some big yellow perch have mixed in at Cannon Lake for anglers using worm baits.

I can confirm the top water activity of the bass this week. Sunday morning, George Rose and I worked an east end lake where we had several fish to 14 inches on yellow Jitterbugs, floating Rapalas and black jellyworms. There was a good deal of surface activity before the sun rose over the trees at 7AM.

From Mrs. Devlin at the **Fisherman's Deli, Riverhead**, we learned that pickerel continue to feed with regularity in the waters of the Peconic directly behind the shop. On Saturday, Mr. Ruvola used a Mepps spinner to pick up a 22 inch fish. Bass action has improved a little and a few larger fish are beginning to show in the catches again. Case in point was the 4.12 lb. largemouth taken over the weekend by Chris Reis of Ridge. Chris used a purple jellyworm to entice his bass.

A Sunday call from Ken Josephson of **Crazy Chief Ski and Sport, Hunter Mt.**, let us know that there are still some "Catskill" trout on the feed, however, the streams are very clear and water levels are down. Best combination for success, according to Ken, is light lines and worm baits.

The Long Island Bassmasters, a local chapter of the Bass Anglers Sportsman's Society, will hold its annual youth clinic on Sunday, August 16th at the Lake Ronkonkoma. This event is free and open to all kids under 15 years old. The day starts at 9:30AM and ends at 1:30PM. The following items are required for the day: fishing rods and reel, bait, tackle and appropriate clothing. There will be people available to perform minor repairs on rods and reels or assist in rigging and baiting as necessary. Prizes will be awarded. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Police Officers will be on hand to give lectures on rules, regulations and general conservation.

Pre-registration will take place at Pine Grove Outfitters on Smithtown Blvd., overlooking the lake, through August 15th. For further information, contact William McGiviny (Billy Mac), youth committee chairman at 467-0871 or see Fred Kruse at Pine Grove Outfitters, 588-3369. A limited amount of beverages will be supplied free of charge courtesy of Drew Mulvihill of Bruno's Beverage of Ronkonkoma.

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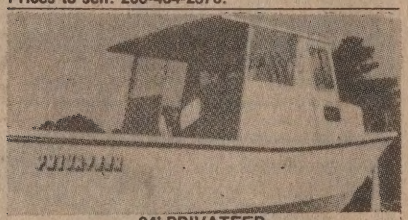
FOR SALE: 2, 318 FWC Chryslers, 225 hp w/manifolds. Port not running. $950 for both. Repowered. Dennis: 516-872-9733.

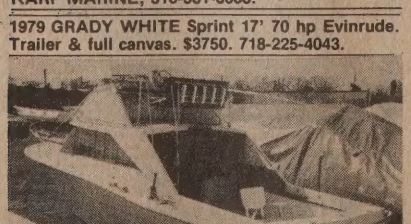
35' MAINE COASTER SF & TD, 235 hp, low hrs. Sleeps 6. Full galley, head/shower. Fish center/sink. Salt & freshwater washdown. Insul. fish box, tuna door, color fish finder, radar, 2 VHF, temp. gauge, North Star 800. Much more. Mint cond. Prices to sell. 203-434-2576.



24' PRIVATEER
PORT OF EGYPT, Southold. 516-765-2445.

30' 1974 Columbia Tower, Perkins
32' 1985 Blackfin, Cats
36' 1984 Runaway, Volvos
45' 1982 Glass Charter/Dive, GM
46' 1971 Chris Aquahome, Gas
32' 1985 Holland Canyon, Isuzu
31' 1973 Uniflite Chryslers
46' 1985 Oceans 6/92s
40' 1982 Egg Tournament 6/71 TIs
60' 1978 Steel Stern Trawler
30' 1969 Morgan Sail
34' 1965 Hatteras GM dsls.
65' Steel Head/Charter GM's
KARP MARINE, 516-581-3308.

1979 GRADY WHITE Sprint 17' 70 hp Evinrude. Trailer & full canvas. $3750. 718-225-4043.



FISHERMAN'S DREAM
28' CHRIS CRAFT Commander FB/SF. 2 new 350 Crusaders + Transmissions. 4 new gas tanks, 280 usable gal. Canyon range. Highly customized for sport fishing. Extensive inventory. Has to be seen to be believed. Turn key operation. Ready to go. $35,000. 516-621-7173/867-4379.

1982 CRUISER Inc. Sport-Vee Special 26', all fiberglass. Twin 228 Mercruiser engines. Sleeps 6. Full galley, running water, refrig, alcohol stove, 110 elec. dockside. Stand-up head, shower. Teak swim platform, pulpit, SS rails, power steering, trim tabs. 120 gal. gas tank. Excl. cond. After 6PM: 718-224-8935.

1987 SEAWAY 20' center console. Boat & motor manufacturer's Demo. Less than 10 hrs. VHF, depth finder. Complete inst. Powered by Suzuki 200 hp Anniversary Edition. Compl. w/deluxe trailer. Will deliver. Ask: $20,000. 201-534-5057.

SEA RAY 24' cuddy/C, 233 hp Merc I/O, overhauled '86. Full teak swim platform w/ladder, Merc-Cathode, auto windlass, dual batt. Porta-Potti. All canvas. Si-Tex HE-32 & F-5 flasher, VHF, CB. Rigged for fishing or skiing. Best Offer. Sag Harbor. 516-725-1140.

ONLY $8560
18' STEIGER CRAFT center console. 70 hp Mercury elec. start. Windshield, grab rail. Freight & prep. incl. MARINELAND: Mattituck, 516-298-4020. Long Beach, 516-889-5000. East Moriches, 516-878-4777. Bklyn: 3260 Flatbush Av, 718-692-1900.

EVINRUDE

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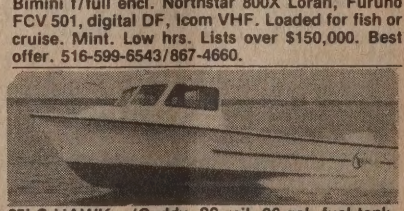
2-$298; 4-$480; 6-$612; 8-$712; 9.9-$960; 15-$1100; 25-$1288; 30-$1388; 40-$1600; 50-$1958; 60-$2350; 70-$2600; 90-$2750; 110-$3260; 120-$4000; 140-$4300; 150-$4400; 175-$4700; 200-$4900; 225-$5000; 275-$5600; 300-$6500. ELECTRA MARINE INC., 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. WI. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere. MERCURY OUTBOARDS. New 1986. Phone quotes. Full service shop.

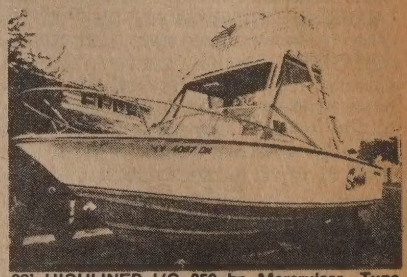
BLACKFIN 86 32' SF, twin 350 Crusaders, FWC, heat & a/c, instant hot water, teak coverboards aft, full teak pulpit w/SS rails, free drop windlass. Full teak swim platform. Pompanette SF 130 fight chair. Rupp outriggers, raw/fresh washdown. Bimini f/full encl. Northstar 800X Loran, Furuno FCV 501, digital DF, Icom VHF. Loaded for fish or cruise. Mint. Low hrs. Lists over $150,000. Best offer. 516-599-6543/867-4660.



25' C-HAWK w/Cuddy, SS rail, 96 gal. fuel tank, 1987 150 hp Suzuki, SS prop. Windshield wipers, bilge pump, 4 rod holders. CG Pkg. FOB. $18,500. Financing avail. 17'-25' Center Console also avail. JENSEN MARINE, Copiague, NY; 516-226-9739.

SPORTCRAFT 27' cuddy cabin, '85 FWC 330 hp Mercruiser, TR outdrive, 150 gal. fuel. Power steering, Loran, VHF, digital depth, chart recorder, CB. Electric anchor, outriggers, trim tabs, dive platforms, SW wash, sea water temp, Mercathode sys. Large cockpit area. Excl. $15,000. 1-516-678-1361.

LANG 33' FG, SF. All fiberglass, dual controls. Twin 351s FWC. Sleeps 6. Generator, Princess kitchen. Fish equip. Full electronics. Excl. cond. $32,500. 516-826-7008.

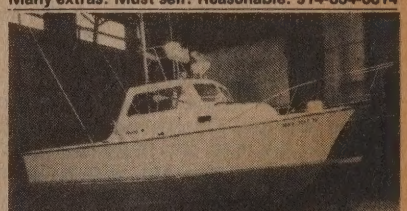


22' HIGHLINER I/O 350 hp Mercruiser. Tuna tower, full encl. Loaded; very seaworthy offshore boat. 80 gal. fuel tanks. Shoreline tandem galv. trailer. Must sell. Best offer. 516-621-2255.

SUZUKI OUTBOARDS. First w/oil injection. 2-200 hp. LEE MARINE, Sayville. 516-567-3313.

SHAMROCK KEEL DRIVE I/Bs 17', 20' & 26'. Rampage Sportfisherman 24'-28'-31' I/B. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400; 516-378-3200.

PEARSON 28' Cruiser, 190 twin Chryslers. Sleeps 4. Newly upholstered, pressure sys., refrig., galley, dinette, VHF,. New helmseat, cover frame. SS rails fore/aft, 4 batt., dockside power, davits. Many extras. Must sell! Reasonable. 914-834-3814



28' COLUMBIA II—The Ultimate Fishing Boat. A chance to own a fully equip. 28' Sportfisherman. Turn the key & you're ready for sharks or any kind of fishing. The boat features tower w/full instrumentation, teak bow pulpit, teak transom platform & transom door. Powered by a Merc 260 hp FWC I/B w/170 gal. tank. In the deck are 2 big, insulated, flush mounted fish boxes. Accessories incl. Furuno 24 mi. radar, Robertson auto pilot, interphased w/Micrologic Loran. Features 3 Lowrance depth recorders, 2 digital & 1 paper machine w/dual transducer selection, a printing sea water temp, VHF & CB radios. Sports an auto anchor windlass, outriggers, trim tabs, SW washdown, full polyurethane flotation in hull & cannot sink. Built-in tackle boxes, 2 fwd bunks, sink, stove, marine toilet, shore-power hook-up & built-in batt. charger. Stored inside, ready for viewing & water ready. Boat is mint. All this for the low price of $49,990. For appt. to view it, call 516-862-9254.

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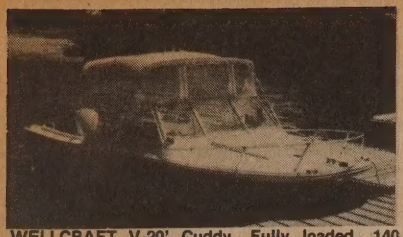


WELLCRAFT V-20' Cuddy. Fully loaded. 140 Evinrude PT&T. Galv. trailer, power winch. Compl fishing machine. Full electronics. More. $8600. 516-294-3059/421-9362.

42' CHARTER BOAT. 22 passengers. Wood, S.S. fastened. G71 diesel, hydro steering, flybridge. All equipt. Excl. cond. $25,000. 718-423-2685.

51' PARTY Boat "Dixie." 48 cap., 671. Excl. cond. Ready to go. Must sell! 516-541-4538.

1986 SEARS Gamefisher 1¾ hp O/B. A bass fisherman's dream, Brand new. In box. $250. Eric: 516-842-1640.

1983 31' JC Sportfisherman, flybridge, 3 station steering. Insulated fish hole, fight chair. Full electronics. V6 71TI diesel. $83,000. 1-203-838-0503.

DEALER CLOSEOUT SALE
Mariner Outboards; Dell Quay boats, Metzeler inflatables. NASSAU CYCLE CENTER, 516-931-7180.

STAMAS 26' 1971 twin 155 V-6 OMC I/O. Americana Fisherman. All gauges, digital tacks, Raytheon Nav 750 Loran, 1350 King chart recorder. Good free drop anchor winch. AM/FM radio sys., VHF, Raytheon Fathom meter & much more. Will Demo. Great offshore/inshore fishing boat. Excl. cond. $11,990. 516-273-2139.

LUHRS 340—offers more standard features than any other Sprtfisherman in her class, incl. the welded aluminum tower, compl. w/console. In stock along w/290 & 342. Also dealers for Sportcraft, Chris Craft, OMC Sea Drive; OMC Stern Drive; Johnson; Mercruiser. SPELLMAN'S MARINE, 1708 North Hwy, Southampton, NY 11968; 516-283-7907.

1985 GRADY WHITE 249 center console, 1986 275 hp Johnson w/1+2 warranty, custom T-top, outriggers, hydraulic steering, tilt & trim, dual batt., rocket launcher. $21,995. 516-239-2477.

EVINRUDE

WE'LL BEAT ANY DEALER'S advertised price—and service it, too! AL GROVER'S, Freeport, 516-378-0510.

1984 GRADY WHITE Tournament 24', twin 115 hp Seadrives. 60 hrs. Tandem trailer. Many extras. Immaculate. $31,500. 516-265-0265.

1984 17' PROLINE center console, 70 hp Yamaha. Galv. trailer. All in mint cond. $6800. Eves after 6PM: 516-589-6599.

1978 GRADY WHITE Chesapeake 212 185 I/O. Trailer, VHF, recorder. $6000. 516-862-8790.

SUZUKI®

SUMMER SPECIALS! 2-200 hp. Special prices on all V6s in stock. New 2-year limited warranty. JENSEN MARINE, 516-226-9739.

1983 FORTIER 26 Diesel. Loaded for offshore. 330 hrs. Call for list. PM: 516-269-9051.

25' WELLCRAFT 1977 cuddy, VHF, depthfinder, CB. New canvas. Rebuilt engine. Extras. Excl. cond. $8900. 516-422-6231.

1978 CENTURY 7000 Series, 27' 3. Sleeps 4; new Mercruiser 230 engine, approx. 75 hrs. Galley, stand-up head. new Bimini top, Side, aft curtains. Plus more. Excl. cond. In water at Montauk. $19,000. 914-693-4431.

WANTED: Johnson Evinrude O/Bs. Any condition. Will pick up. Used parts avail. 516-981-6487.

20' WELLCRAFT Cuddy, w/galv. trailer. 175 Evinrude. Low hrs. Full electronics. Bimini top, dual batt. Extras. Mint. $8900. 516-483-5238, 516-483-8896.

Alura 30

SPORTFISH Cruiser 30' by Hunter Marine. Full keel design. 6' 4" cabin w/galley & head. Huge cockpit. Introductory special $40,645 w/270 hp. FOB. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400; 516-378-3200.

EVINRUDE

NEW 1985, 1986, 1987 NEW
6-$598; 8-$698; 9.9-$948; 28-$1498; 40-$1598; 50-$1998; 88-$2698; 110-$3298; 225-$4998. SEALAND MARINE, 48 Merrick Rd., Amity Harbor, NY 11701; 516-842-1242. FOB/WI. Ship anywhere.

1981 AQUASPORT 24' center console, 1983 225 hp Mercury. Less than 100 hrs. Fishing electronics, canvas, outriggers. Many extras. Must go. $13,500. Jay, M-f, 9-5: 212-409-1881. Eves & Wknds: 914-636-1662.

1982 CRUISER INC. Sea Devil 25'. Bought new in '83. 26 L. OMC Sea Drive, full canvas, trim tabs, VHF, CB, chart recorder, Sea STemp gauge, 140 gal. fuel. Much more. Mint. Must be seen. $16,500. Eves: 331-9320. Days: 744-8882.

1986 28' BAYLINER Contessa Sunbridge. Twin 225 hp. Fast & reliable. Sleeps 6; 2 in private aft cabin. VHF, CB, depth sounder. Loaded w/features. Too many to list. Like new; perfect cond. New boat coming. Must sell. $39,990. 516-666-2151.

1982 AQUASPORT Family Fisherman, 1984 200 Mercury, 1982 trailer. Electronics, canvas. Extras. $15,500. Eves: 516-747-5370.

BLACK FIN 29 1984 COMBI
Custom tower, sunshade & controls. T/454 Crusaders, 330 gal. fuel cap. Top electronics inc. Furuno radar, Furuno LC-90 Loran, Icom VHF, Raytheon JFV-90 video DF, 600 watt. Double spreader outriggers. Compl. rigged for big game fishing. Custom stand-up cabin. Low hrs. Mint. At Montauk. Serious calls only. Must sell. $80,000. 718-204-4777.

30' Quiet running Work Boat, non-roller. Rebuilt FWC engine-val. $3000; 6 gal./hr. Gill nets, fyke, elec. pot hauler. Reasonable. 516-483-9598.

Sea Nymph

1987 Fishing Boats. Evinrude outboards. KELLY'S OUTBOARD WORLD, 1531 Lakeland Ave., Bohemia, 516-567-3417.

PAIR FWC 350 C.I. Chris Craft engines w/Paragon 2:1 gears. Excl. running. $2400 pr. Day: 234-4466. Eves: 581-3246.

38' BERTRAM 1979, Turbo Cummins, tower, teak decks, cockpit controls. Windlass, generator, reverse air. Stereo, freezer, refrig., micro-oven. Murray chair, Avon raft. Full curtains & covers. Auto pilot, radar, VHF, CB, Loran, color recorder. Many other quality electronics & extras. Exceptionally well maintained. Offers over $135K considered. 201-223-8510.

32 WASQUE Flybridge Fisherman, 180 hp Ford TI diesel 6 cyl. 110 gal. fuel, 25 gal. pressure water. Radar, Loran, DF, VHF, outriggers, bow rail, pulpit. 516-473-6857.

60' CUSTOM BUILT Party Boat, 49 passengers, 100 miles. Can increase. 2 8V71s. Planking 1.5" Juniper. Excl. cond. Built 1978. New boat coming in June. Reduced for quick sale. $125,000. CAPT. JOHN, 15 First St., Waterford, Ct 06385; 203-443-7259.

20' GRADY WHITE 1976 center console, 1981 Johnson O/B 140 hp. Trailer, Loran, T-tops, etc. Good cond. Must sell. $8900. 516-333-5543.

MIDLAND 19' 1984. Unbelievable hull design. Center console, 85 hp Suzuki, w/PT&T. 130 hrs. Dual batt., guest switch, isolator, etc. Moving to Texas. $8000. 718-769-3327.

1975 19' ANGLER Cuddy Cabin 85 hp Mercury. Galv. trailer. Good cond. Loaded. Many extras. $4600. Eves. after 6PM: 516-698-7457.

16' MIRROCRAFT, 40 hp Evinrude, Galv. trailer. Rigged to fish. Ask: $2500. After 5PM: 516-273-0485.

31 BERTRAM 68, repowered FWC 427s. Out & down riggers, fight chair, 2 insulated fish boxes. 325 gal. fuel cap. Electronics pkg. incl. colorscope. Canyon ready & tournament tested. Disability prevents use. Make me an offer I can't refuse. 516-589-7005.

22 SISU, 1983 115 hp Evinrude, Loran C, VHF, 6" graph recorder. Loaded w/extras. $9500 or B/O. 516-653-6490.

1985 FORTIER 26, diesel. Documented. Electronics, etc. Low hrs. Fast, comfortable, economical. Illness sale. 516-587-3796.

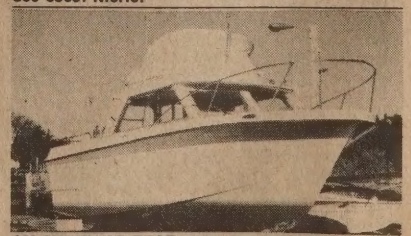
1984 MAKO 224, 1984 235 Evinrude VRO. Recorder, VHF, CB, outriggers, spray hood. Mint. 516-884-1805.

1966 26' MAC KENZIE Cuttyhunk 1976 FWC Mercruiser 225 hp. VHF, canvas wheelhouse. Some new woodwork. Boat & motor in very good cond. New boat on way. $8500. 516-378-7482.

LUHRS 25' 6" Fiberglass hull & bridge, 225 hp Chrysler, 2 VHF, CB, Hynautic steering, sea temp. Outriggers, trim tabs, Flo Scan & much, much more. Good cond. $8750. After 6PM: 516-433-2022

1980 BLACK FIN 25' Fisherman 350 hp Crusader. Full encl. & electronics. Compl. fish rigged. $23,500. 203-966-9330.

1985 WILBUR/HUNT 38' CUSTOM SPORTFISH Twin Cat 3208TA; 150 hrs. Flybridge, wheelhouse or lower control stations, 8KW Westerbeke aux. gen. Rupp riggers, full electronics, stereo, microwave. Mint cond. Days: 212-765-8670. Eves: 212-860-3569. Merle.



23' UNIFLITE FBSF 1984 225 hp I/B. All electronics. New alum. tanks, extra fuel, washdown. Summer covers, dual hyd. stations. Great cond. Key ready. $12,500. 516-798-2134.

Continued On Next Page →

1983 MAKO 25 CC; Rainbow Runner II, 1984 Twin 150 hp Merc V6 O/Bs, 1983 Shoreline EZ Loader trailer, T-top, rocket launcher, gin pole, outriggers. Full electronics. Rigged to the hilt. The ultimate fishing machine. $29,500. Eves, Wknds: 516-277-4426.

WELLCRAFT 20' 1981 V-20 Step Lift, 170 hp Merc I/O, VHF, depthfinder, canvas. $11,000. PORT OF EGYPT, Southold, 516-765-2445.

1982 28' BLACK FIN Combi, 8-2L diesels, tower, Rupp riggers. Si-Tex radar, Si-Tex Loran w/remote. Si-Tex recorder, Koden video sonar, VHS, fight chair, swim platform. New batt., extra fuel. Canyon ready. Very clean. Days: 215-495-7166.

26' SACONNETT Bass Boat, same lines as Fortier. Built 1969, repowered 1983, 135 hp Isuzu diesel, VHF, Si-Tex DF, speedometer, digital DF, auto anchor. Fish equip. Sleeps 2. Elec. head, washdown pump & much more. $15,500. al Mott, 516-549-BOAT.

FORMULA Thunderbird 23'. Well maintained 1966 Fiberglass I/O, cuddy, rebuilt engine & outdrive. New canvas & carpet. Low hrs. $4500. Smithtown, 516-724-2946.

16' STARCRAFT Seafarer aluminum w/trailer, 33 hp Johnson & extras. Oldie but goodie. Runs V.G. Excl. Bay boat. $850. 516-666-6882 Lv. message.

1980 9.9 hp Mercury. Like new. 6 gal. tank. Will Demo evenings only. Price $500 or B/O. 718-497-5346.

1976 21' GRADY WHITE, Chesapeake, 175 OMC & galv. trailer. $5900. Riverhead. 516-727-1028.

FORMULA 26' 1978, twin 260s, Maxi outdrive. Low hrs. SS Radar arch, Loran, DF, synch., pulpit. windlass. Bristol cond. Much, much more. $26,500. 516-361-6774.

AQUASPORT 1986 25' Express Fisherman, 200 hp 1986 Merc O/B, walkaround cabin, pulpit, SS bowrail, swim platform, SW Wash. Full canvas, full instr., DF, VHF, sink, icebox. Many extras. All Mint. $23,000. 516-665-7617.

28' 1986 BAHA Cruisers Sportfisherman 10' 8" beam. Custom flybridge, 2 sta. Hynautic controls. Si-Tex Loran & double cone paper recorder, Ray Jeff VHF, fuel sniffer, Dytek water temp gauge, twin 225 hp FWC, 20 hrs. Rockaway fight chair, 7 Perko rod holders & outriggers. Trim tabs, high volume washdown, 4 batt. w/switches. Custom super cooler, large fish box & bait well, tackle locker. 280 gal. fuel. Head. This boat has it all! Turn key & catch fish. 2-boat owner. Must sell quick. $49,995. Day: 491-5505. Eves: 842-2255.

GRADY WHITE 25' 1985 Sailfish, twin 150 hp 1985 Johnsons, VHF, Screen depthfinder. Custom canvas. Extended warranty. PORT OF EGYPT, Southold, 516-765-2445.

WANTED: Used Boats. Complete marine service. Brokerage, surveys, inspections, evaluations performed. Maintenance contracts. PALMER'S MARINE, 516-623-2972.

BERTRAM 20' Bahia Mar. New Mercruiser. VHF, CB, depth finder. New top. Teak trim. Best offer. 516-798-7531.

1983 CHRIS CRAFT. Mint. I/B, VHF, tabs. Refrig., swim platform. Low hrs. Yard maintained. $22,500. Days: 212-363-3400. Eves: 718-646-0833.

DORY 15' Fiberglass, 25 hp Mariner O/B. Equip w/trailer. $2000. Queens: 718-352-2201.

FORMULA F23.3 Coastal '76 Cuddy, 1984 350 OMC, half tower. Loran, VHF, CB, DF, DR, P1Winch. Outriggers, chair, fishwells, trim tabs, head, cushions. Canvas. Mint. $14,000. Days: 516-589-2060. Eves: 516-589-3171.

GRADY WHITE 19' 1984 Tournament, 1984 150 hp Johnson. Ext. warranty. New full canvas, Lowrance X-16, Loran Furuno LC 90, King 7000 VHF, EZ Load trailer. Plus more. Mint. Eves, Wkdns: 516-385-8651. Days: 516-922-0393.

BAYLINER '74, Saratoga 25', 225 Merc TR2 I/O. New transmission, outdrive rebuilt '86, VHF, Meca 415D recorder. Tired interior. In water; ready to go. Priced to sell: $4500. 516-724-4945.

22' CHRIS CRAFT Fiberglass Cutlass Tournament Fisherman. FWC 350 I/B, 75 gal. fuel tank. A beauty. Call for details. Best offer over $8500. 516-587-8127.

30' SILVERTON Fiberglass cabin cruiser. New 1986 Chrys. 440/330 V8, dual sta., VHF, video depth finder, elec. head. Top cond. Too much to list. $18,500. 718-761-5972.

'80 POST 46' SF 400 TIs, half tower, full encl. Radar, Loran, SSB, VHF, 2 recorders, auto pilot, Hailer. Chair, outriggers. Life raft, A/C, TV. All electric. Ask: 230,000 or consider cash & trade 32 Black Fin or 31' Bertram. 516-277-7448.

BOSTON WHALER 17' Montauk, 85 hp Johnson rebuilt. Excellent condition. $4100. 541-5974.

EVINRUDE 1974 40 hp short shaft. Just reconditioned. Power head running; sheared crank shaft. Good for parts. $200. Binnacle controls. 368-5868.

CRUSADER Twin engines 270 hp FWC. Complete w/velvet drive transmissions/manifolds. Low hrs. 718-761-3796.

21' ROBALO 1981 cuddy, twin 115 Mercurys, welded alum. top. New canvas. Si-Tex, Loran, color video, VHF. 90 gal. fuel tank. Excl. cond. $16,000. 516-324-8365.

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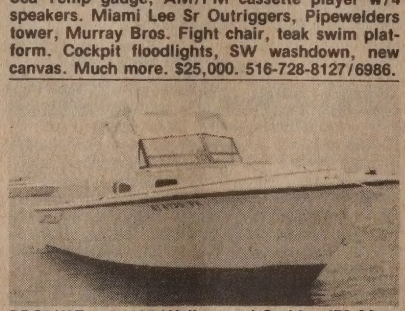
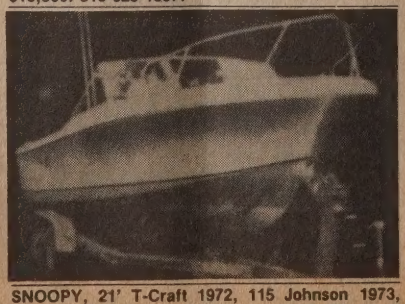


PROLINE 21' 1985 Walkaround Cuddy, 470 Merc I/O FWC. Color fish finder, VHF. Rod holders, swim platform. Cockpit lights, 70 gal. fuel. CG Pkg. 70 hrs on boat & motor. Excl. Will Demo. $13,500. 516-325-1597.



SNOOPY, 21' T-Craft 1972, 115 Johnson 1973, galv. tandem trailer 1985, Loran, VHF, CB, X-15 recorder. Runs great. Super fishing boat. $5995. 516-751-9191.

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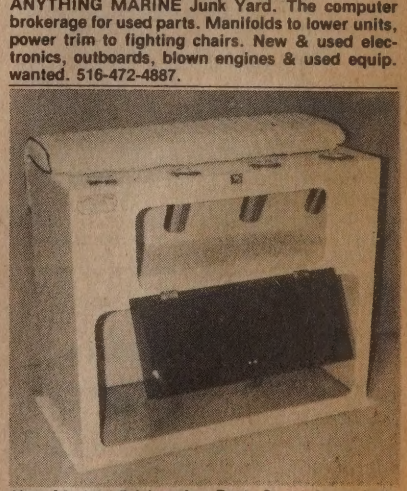

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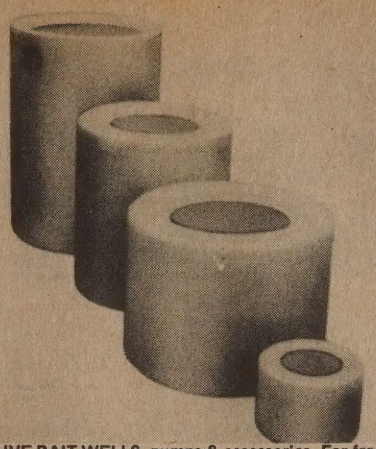

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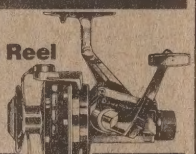

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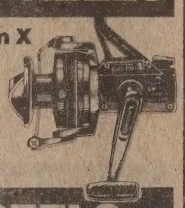

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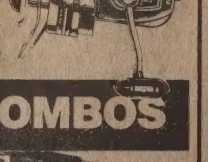

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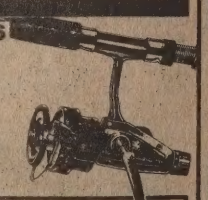

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